MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 MAY 1982

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Iraqi forces suffered heavy losses on 16 May during intense fighting along the border from Kushk to the northwest of Khuzestan, according to an armed forces communique carried by Tehran radio. Iranian forces destroyed five Iraqi tanks and a large number of heavy weapons, the communique said. A later military communique carried by the radio claimed that four Iraqi airplanes were shot down over the weekend, bringing the total number of Iraqi aircraft downed since the beginning of the Jerusalem Operation [Bayt al-moqaddas] to 37.

Another communique broadcast by the radio said that on 14 May Iranian forces repelled an Iraqi attack on the Khorramshahr front and forced the Iraqis to retreat. The communique said that 50 Iraqis were either killed or wounded and an ammunition dump was destroyed when the Iranian Navy and the Gendarmerie opened fire on Iraqi positions on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts. A 14 May military communique carried by Tehran radio reported that 5,124 Iraqis have been captured since the beginning of the Jerusalem Operation.

According to an Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio, 915 Iranians were killed and 8 tanks were destroyed when Iraqi forces launched an attack on the (Ash-Shihabi) police post on 14 May. Two Iranian helicopters were shot down in this area the next day, the communique asserted. A subsequent INA report said Iraqi forces foiled two Iranian attacks on the police post on 15 May.

Another communique broadcast by Baghdad radio reported that on 16 May 23 Iranians were killed when Iraqi forces attacked Iranian positions north of Khorramshahr. The communique also claimed that two Iranian naval vessels were sunk in the Kur-e Mush area.

Khomeyni, Musavi Remarks -- If the countries of the region act subversively and cooperate with Iraq, "they can be sure that, not being stronger than Saddam, they will suffer the same fate," Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni warned in a speech carried by Tehran radio. Earlier in the speech Khomeyni said Iran has nothing against countries which are not corrupt, and he declared that Iran does not have its eyes on other territories. Noting that the material world is not highly regarded by Iranians, Khomeyni said Iran would not start a war with Muslim countries for materialistic reasons.

During a press conference reported by IRNA, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi declared that Iran does not intend to invade Iraqi territory or any other territory. Musavi said the condition for the establishment of peace in the region is the overthrow of the Iraqi president, according to a later IRNA report. He declared that Iran would never accept an imposed peace in its war with Iraq. According to an AFP report on the press conference, Musavi warned that the sending of Egyptian troops to Iraq could set the whole region ablaze and bring down the Egyptian president.

Gulf Concern Over War -- GCC foreign ministers held an emergency session in Kuwait on 15 May to discuss the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war, KUNA reported. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said after the meeting that no final statement had been issued because the ministers will hold further contacts over the next 2 weeks before resuming talks in Riyadh on 30 May, Kuwait radio reported. The GCC ministers will seek to crystalize a unified stand toward the Iran-Iraq conflict, the foreign minister said. On the same day, SPA reported that Saudi newspapers expressed confidence that the GCC ministers would be able to devise a "workable formula" to settle the Iran-Iraq war.

In its 15 May press review, Riyadh radio announced that the Arab states had informed Iran that they will implement the joint Arab defense pact if Iraqi territory is subjected to aggression. The radio gave no further details of this warning. Meanwhile, Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan said in an interview with Kuwait's AL-ANBA' that the Soviet Union will soon declare open and direct support for Iran, KUNA reported. Sultan warned that the Gulf region could become a theater of Soviet-U.S. conflict as a result of the Iran-Iraq war.

Egyptian Comment -- MENA reported that AL-AKHBAR called on Gulf officials to courageously face the explosive situation in the area, taking a candid stance and facing matters realistically instead of resorting to formalities that do not place things in their true perspective. AL-AKHBAR opined that the Soviets were behind the recent Iranian offensive, basing their plan on fomenting chaos in order to provide an opportunity for intervention in the area.

Iran

Four people were injured when a bomb exploded on 15 May inside the reception office of the Imam Khomeyni Mosque in Tehran, IRNA reported. The bomb exploded just prior to the weekly meeting of the Islamic Association of Bazaar and Guildsmen. According to an AFP report, that same day in Tehran an Islamic clergyman was wounded and his bodyguard and a passerby were killed when gunmen attacked the clergyman's car.

Israel

Policy on Cease-Fire -- The Cabinet decided during its 16 May meeting that Israel will under no circumstances accept the "arbitrary and distorted interpretation" of the cease-fire given by the terrorist organizations, according to a government spokesman's announcement broadcast by Jerusalem television. Noting that Prime Minister Menahem Begin told the Cabinet that Israel has behaved with atypical restraint, the television said Jerusalem circles believe that the entire world, including critics in Israel, should understand that Israel is not looking for a pretext for action. According to Jerusalem radio, the Cabinet agreed that the terrorists should no longer be allowed to operate against Israel anywhere while their concentrations in Lebanon enjoy immunity under the cover of the cease-fire agreement.

Before the Cabinet meeting, Begin held consultations on security policy with the Alignment leaders, according to radio and television reports. The television said it was agreed that Israel will continue to show restraint in everything connected with its activity on the northern border provided the terrorists do not continue to violate the cease-fire.

Aid for Lebanese Christians -- Prime Minister Begin told visiting Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo that Israel has given the Lebanese Christians weapons and ammunition worth $100 million, Jerusalem radio reported on 14 May.

Security Situation -- A bomb exploed in Bet Guvrin on 13 May and another bomb was dismantled in Jerusalem the following day, according to Jerusalem radio reports. An Arab youth was injured in Nabulus on 15 May when IDF soldiers opened fire at demonstrators, ITIM noted.

Relations With Egypt -- Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir said the government will never give up Tabah, according to a 15 May radio report. MENA subsequently noted that Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali had sent a letter to his Israeli counterpart Yitzhaq Shamir, calling for international arbitration on the Tabah border problem as soon as possible.

Relations With African States -- Foreign Minister Shamir said in a 16 May Jerusalem radio interview that Zaire's decision to renew diplomatic relations with Israel is extremely good news and that other African states are certain to follow suit. Gabon is now expected to resume relations, according to the radio.

A Zairian presidential envoy said in remarks broadcast by IDF radio that his country's embassy will be situated in Jerusalem.

Lebanon

A Lebanese Army communique broadcast by Beirut radio on 15 May announced that men of Ahmad al-Khatib's Arab Army of Lebanon had ambushed three Lebanese Army jeeps on the Sidon-Beirut road, killing one soldier and wounding nine others. Later the same day, two men were killed by gunfire in Sidon, according to the radio. Further clashes between armed organizations erupted in the city on 16 May, the radio noted. Voice of Lebanon radio said the clashes were between Nasirites and Palestinian groups.

PLO

Plans for Lebanon, Cease-Fire Policy -- In a 15 May meeting the PLO's Supreme Military Council adopted contingency plans to counter a potential Israeli threat to southern Lebanon, the clandestine Voice of Palestine reported. The radio also reported that PLO Deputy Military Commander in Chief Khalil al-Wazir said in an interview with the Beirut weekly MONDAY MORNING that the PLO wants to keep the cease-fire in southern Lebanon but this does not mean it will restrict its struggle against the "Zionist occupation inside the occupied homeland and across other borders.

Visits -- PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi may visit the United States in mid-June at the invitation of a group of congressmen, AFP reported citing Lebanon's AN-NAHAR. Meanwhile, Delhi radio noted that PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit India on 21 May.

Steadfastness and Confrontation Front

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Algeria on 15 May for talks with President Chadli Bendjedid, Algiers radio reported. The two leaders discussed the convening of a Steadfastness and Confrontatation Front summit conference in the near future, Damascus radio said. In a press statement on their talks broadcast by Damascus television, Al-Asad and Bendjedid announced that front foreign ministers will meet in Algiers before the end of May. The statement also called on all Arab states to adhere to the Baghdad summit resolutions and to stop any attempt to restore relations with Egypt since the causes for severing those relations still exist.

Earlier, Al-Asad held talks in Tripoli with Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on ways to confront attempts to "Arabize" the Camp David "conspiracy," according to Damascus radio. Among the Libyans attending the discussions with the Syrian delegation was Armed Forces Chief of Staff Brig Mustafa al-Kharrubi, Tripoli radio noted. SPA and SUNA had previously reported that Al-Kharrubi was recently wounded in an abortive coup attempt.

Libya

A PRC delegation arrived in Tripoli on 16 May, Tripoli radio reported. The delegation leader said the visit is designed to "enhance" Chinese-Libyan cooperation.

Egypt

Arrests -- Interior Minister Maj Gen Hasan Abu Basha announced that on 14 May police arrested the leaders of a new branch of the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation (Takfir), MENA reported.

New Governors -- President Husni Mubarak has issued a decree appointing seven new governors, according to MENA.

Sudan

President Ja'far Numayri appointed new ministers for agriculture and irrigation and education and guidance and also replaced the governor of Al-Jazirah, SUNA reported on 15 May.

Pakistan

The eight-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy called for the release of political prisoners including retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan and Benazir Bhutto, AFP reported on 16 May.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT CHAIRS SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL MEETING

NC160728 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday evening chaired a meeting of the Palestinian Revolution Supreme Military Council. During the meeting, the conferees reviewed the latest developments in the military situation in light of the increasing Zionist military concentrations in southern Lebanon as well as the threats the enemy leaders made in the past 24 hours. The council also discussed the popular uprising of our masses in the occupied land and the demonstrations that swept all occupied Palestine towns and villages on the occasion of 15 May, the anniversary of the usurpation of our land. The council adopted a number of measures and decisions to confront all possible eventualities.

PFLP STRESSES RIGHT TO FIGHT INSIDE ISRAEL

NC161224 Paris AFP in English 1207 GMT 16 May 82

[Excerpt] Beirut, 16 May (AFP) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization's Supreme Military Council has adopted contingency plans to counter a potential Israeli threat to south Lebanon, the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, reported today. The agency said the plans were drafted at a meeting of the council chaired by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat last night.

Another statement today emphasized the "legitimate" right of PLO to "pursue the fight against Israel from all Arab frontiers and inside the occupied territories."

The statement, issued by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by George Habash, added that the Palestinian riposte to Israeli raids on Lebanon last Sunday was a "warning aimed at ending raids against the Lebanese and Palestinian populations."

FATAH OFFICIAL: PLO WANTS TO KEEP CEASE-FIRE

JN161811 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1616 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], a Fatah Central Committee member and the deputy commander in chief, has said that the PLO wants to maintain the cease-fire in southern Lebanon but this does not mean we will restrict our struggle against the Zionist occupation inside the occupied homeland and across other borders.

In an interview with the Lebanese magazine MONDAY MORNING, Abu Jihad explained that the Palestinian resistance, which is trying to avoid direct military retaliation from southern Lebanon, reserves the right to defend itself and the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples if Israel begins a battle which leads to killing civilians in southern Lebanon. Abu Jihad added that the PLO did not respond to the first Israeli attack on 21 April to avoid a military escalation and out of consideration for the Lebanese situation.

Abu Jihad said: After the second Israeli attack on 9 May, we decided to respond on a limited scale by striking at Israeli positions in the north of occupied Palestine. Abu Jihad said the enemy government is trying to find excuses to violate the cease-fire and to strike at the PLO, in the hope of destroying our peoples's morale and ending the continued uprising which is taking place in the occupied homeland.

VOP ON AIM OF ISRAEL'S ARMING OF LEBANESE FRONT

NC152006 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Some papers published in Beirut today deal with the statements of the enemy's prime minister, Begin, in which he disclosed that the isolationist Lebanese Front was supplied with weapons valued at $100 million. The front received the weapons to carry out the isolationist militias' role in the Zionist aggressive plan, which is being prepared against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. These papers say the Zionist-isolationist alliance's aggression will be directed against the joint forces and the Arab Deterrent Forces.

Press analysts point out that the escalation of tension in southern Lebanon is currently aimed at paving the way for the return of Philip Habib and Morris Draper to the area and at raising anew the situation in the south in light of the U.S. plan to oust the Palestinian Revolution's forces from the south in return for ending the tension.

The analysts add that the objective of the current threat of a Zionist military action is to fulfill the U.S. backed Zionist-isolationist plans through diplomacy. The analysts do not rule out the possibility of Israeli attacks during the current campaign of pressures to provide the necessary impetus for the U.S. moves. They point out that the wide-scale Zionist aggression in which the Lebanese Front will play a role is linked to the failure of the U.S. diplomats' move and that the aggression will be considered justified from the U.S. point of view on the basis that it is the only way to weaken the PLO, hold the cards in the presidential elections in Lebanon and cancel the Lebanese national rule.

PLO OFFICIAL DENIES PALESTINIAN-U.S. TALKS

GF141503 Doha QNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 14 May 82

[Excerpt] Dubayy, 14 May (QNA) -- Shafiq al-Hut, head of the PLO's office in Beirut, has denied reports on the existence of a Palestinian-U.S. dialogue. He stressed that the PLO has not held any dialogue with any U.S. official. However, he said a number of U.S. Congressmen have expressed interest in meeting with the Palestinian officials who took part in the recent UN emergency session, but this meeting has not taken place, although it may be held later.

In a statement published by the UAE newspaper AL-BAYAN today, the PLO official said Palestinian-U.S. relations are still as bad as ever, if not worse, because the United States is not content with providing military support to Israel; it is also supporting Israel's aggressive policies politically. He explained that by doing so, the United States is frustrating all the international efforts being exerted within the UN framework to reach a comprehensive settlement to the Palestinian question.

Mr al-Hut urged the United States to work for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis apart from the Camp David framework. He indicated that political discussions with the parties concerned, particularly the Palestinians, cannot take place within the Camp David framework.

PLO'S QADDUMI MAY GO TO U.S. IN MID-JUNE

NC151222 Paris AFP in English 1212 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Beirut, 15 May (AFP) -- Faruq Qaddumi, Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) "foreign minister", might go to the United States in mid-June at the invitation of a group of congressmen, the Lebanese newspaper AN-NAHAR reported today.

Qutoing the PLO observer at the United Nations, Zuhdi at-Tarazi, AN-NAHAR said the invitation came from Lee Hamilton (Democrat, Indiana), president [as received] of the European and Mideast Affairs Committee in Congress.

AN-NAHAR said a senior Palestinian official of the main PLO group Fatah, Khalid al-Hasan, had confirmed the invitation, adding that Mr Qaddumi would also meet Senator Charles Percy, who chairs the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.

VOP ON U.S.-ISRAELI STRATEGIC COOPERATION

NC151655 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1135 GMT 15 May 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Reagan's Statement on the Resurrection of the Strategic Cooperation Agreement With Israel and Memories of Freezing This Agreement"]

[Text] The tale of the strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel is similar to an alliance between a man and his son. The United States does not need texts and agreements to embody its special relationship with Israel nor does Israel need texts and agreements to guarantee U.S. support for it to the extent of fighting in its stead when necessary. The history of U.S.-Israeli relations is filled with definite proof that the two sides have a shared heritage of fighting in one trench. What took place in October 1973, when U.S. tanks and their crews fought in the Sinai and on the Golan front, and even with Israeli Army emblems, provides modest evidence that the two sides do not need written agreements in light of the fateful agreement which joins them together.

But when the idea of strategic cooperation is suggested at a given time, then it is frozen because of specific circumstances, which is the Israeli annexation of the Syrian Arab Golan Heights, under the slogan of pressuring Israel to cancel the annexation, and then the idea is renewed by the U.S. President, the matter makes one wonder: Has Israel changed its mind about the annexation of the Golan Heights so that Reagan may withdraw his previous stand? As far as we know, what is taking place in the Golan Heights now is not just annexation on paper and by decisions, but it is an actual attempt to annex the territory and the people in the face of which nothing stands except those great heroes, the imhabitants and the owners of the heights who fight with all the means available to them and who do not recognize it under any circumstance.

In light of this fact we ask again: Why was the cooperation agreement frozen and why was this decision withdrawn without achieving any of its goals? We know the answer from a quick reading of the U.S. equation with the Arabs, which is based upon a fixed basis, which is: Give the Arabs whatever they want of empty promises and give Israel what it deserves through action. And because the Arabs forget, or rather because they do not like to remember, why doesn't the U.S. recant even its words. This is precisely the only answer to the question. Doubtlessly some Arabs who like to deal with the United States on the basis of full acceptance of its equation will come up with words, direct or indirect, the meaning of which is that the revival of the strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel is for the sake of increasing the force of the U.S. pressure upon the Zionist government.

Such words do not just hold the Arab mentality lightly, but they also constitute an abhorrent counterpart to the U.S. equation regarding the Arabs. Does the United States need an actual piece of paper with the signature of Begin or Sharon to use in its so-called pressure on Israel? If we accept this we will be ignoring the facts and realities, foremost of which is that the United States owns the lungs through which Israel breathes. In light of such a situation we do not think the owner of the lungs needs a piece of paper to exercise pressure, in addition to the fact that in the first place, the United States does not need the tool of pressure as long as Israel plays the role of the tool, which does not have any freedom of decision and cannot, under any circumstances, go beyond the planned U.S. role.

The true meaning of the strategic cooperation must be comprehended by the Arabs as it is. The Arabs must not doubt for one second that this agreement and the propaganda surrounding it are just a message to the Arabs in which the United States announces it is with Israel until the end, or that Israel is with it until the end. The Arabs must act accordingly. In the light of this true meaning the Arabs must define their stand far from creating excuses for the United States and explaining its aggressive and provocative steps by false and unfounded explanations.

The United States, which tries to hold both the Arabs and the Israelis, must find someone who will tell it that such a game is not accepted. The original Arab issue is with the United States and Israel and not with anyone else. The present and future of the Arabs are threatened by the United States and Israel and not by any other side. When the United States, in its contempt for the Arabs, reaches the extent of confiscating the truths of their issue and replacing them with false theses which make Israel a friend and not an actual enemy for the Arabs, [the Arabs should] make their opinion known with a degree of bravery and manhood to preserve their existence, their dignity, their usurped rights and their respect in the eyes of the world which witnesses the Arab role in the U.S. game and sees only cowardice.

PLO OFFICIAL CONDEMNS RENEWED ZAIRE-ISRAEL TIES

NC160832 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Brother Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, PLO Executive Committee member, yesterday denounced the Zairian Government's move to resome diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity. In a statement to the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, he pointed out that this step, which constitutes a flagrant violation of OAU resolutions, is in line with Zairian policy, which is loyal and subservient to the imperialist U.S. policy.

'Abd Rabbuh said: This step constitutes a completely hostile position to the Arab nation. In addition, it is a blatant violation of the resolutions adopted by the OAU and a continuation of the course the agent regime in Zaire has pursued in disowning Africa's basic interests in loyalty to U.S. imperialism.

'Abd Rabbuh called on the Arab countries to implement the Arab summit resolutions and boycott Zaire politically, diplomatically and economically.

BRIEFS

LOAN TO MALDIVES -- The Islamic Development Bank signed an agreement with the Maldives today whereby the bank will grant $3.3 million to purchase a cargo ship. The agreement was signed by the bank's director general, Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali, and by the deputy director of the Maldives Finance Department, Ali Sharif, and Director of the Maldives Shipping Company Mohamed Halimu. [Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 11 May 82 GF]

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN EMERGENCY SESSION

LD150944 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0926 GMT 15 May 82

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 15 May (KUNA) -- The GCC foreign ministers today began an emergency session here to discuss the latest development in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the current Arab situation, particularly following the return of the Sinai to Egyptian sovereignty on 25 April.

To Reconvene 30 May in Riyadh

LD151810 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] The GCC foreign ministers held a second meeting this afternoon within the framework of their urgent session being held to discuss the arising developments in the region. KUNA reports that Sa'ud al-Faysal, the Saudi foreign minister, said at the end of the meeting that this extraordinary session has not concluded; it will continue to be in session and will be resumed in Riyadh on 30 May. He said this is the reason no final statement about the meeting was issued.

The Saudi foreign minister stressed that contacts are taking place to tackle the region's overall situation. The ministers discussed the results of these contacts and also the future steps to be taken; they adopted a resolution that these contacts should continue in order to crystalize a unified Arab stand toward the current situation in our region in general and the Iraq-Iran conflict in particular. The Saudi foreign minister stressed that these contacts are continuing and will be completed during the next 11 days, before the meeting is resumed in Riyadh. He expressed the hope that the final statement issued following that meeting will respond to our aspirations to reach an end to the Iraq-Iran war in the interest of all. He said contacts are being made concerning an Arab meeting which will be the framework of an idea to which we attach the greatest importance.

Replying to a question about whether the question of Egypt's return to the Arab fold was discussed, the Saudi foreign minister said any decision in this respect is an Arab decision; consequently, reappraising it must be discussed within the framework of Arab consensus.

The foreign ministers left Kuwait this evening.

KUWAIT

ZAMBIA'S PRESIDENT KAUNDA ARRIVES 15 MAY

LD150732 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0721 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 15 May (KUNA) -- Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda has arrived here today on a 3-day official visit at the beginning of a tour that will also take him to Iraq and Bahrain.

He was welcomed on arrival by Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, with whom he will have talks which are expected to concentrate on bolstering bilateral relations, international political issues, particularly the Middle East, and other issues of common interest.

Holds Talks With Amir

LD161514 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0712 GMT 16 May 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 16 May (KUNA) -- Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda has begun his talks with Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. Nothing has yet been disclosed about the topics to be discussed but, according to official sources, the talks will cover bilateral relations, Arab-African cooperation, the Middle East question and other matters of common interest to both sides.

Last night President Kaunda met with Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, but nothing is known about the topics discussed.

President Kaunda attended a banquet last night in his honor given by the amir of Kuwait. He is scheduled to attend together with the amir a ceremony to be held for the graduation of a new group of officer cadets at the military academy.

Interviewed on Mideast Issues

JN162141 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2054 GMT 16 May 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 16 May (WAKH) -- Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda has asserted that his country will not resume diplomatic relations with Israel, because it is a matter of principle. He called on the Arab states to support the liberation movement in South Africa, which is considered a racist entity like Israel.

In an interview with Kuwaiti television tonight, President Kaunda said his talks with his highness the amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, were good. [Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic at 1700 GMT on 16 May reports Kaunda as describing the talks as "friendly and successful".] He also expressed his admiration for the Kuwaiti Government and people.

Regarding his country's position on a just solution to the Middle East question, President Kaunda said: Our position is clear: It stems from the importance we attach to mankind and its issues. We want peace to prevail throughout the world. We believe there will be no real peace in the Middle East as long as Israel remains intransigent.

President Kaunda expressed the hope that the Arabs will unite, stressing that their unity is the only source of their strength against Israeli intransigence.

President Kaunda added: We supported Prince Fahd's plan for peace in the Middle East and we hope that the Arab leaders will discuss it, because it will serve the interest of peace in the Middle East.

Asked about Zaire's decision to resume diplomatic relations with Israel, President Kaunda said: I cannot speak for other governments. They have their policies and stands and we in Zambia have ours.

President Kaunda noted that Middle East problems are very similar to South African problems. The situation in both regions is the same. Israel is to the Middle East as South Africa is to the African Continent. Both regimes are bound by strong friendly ties, he said.

President Kaunda called on the Arabs to support liberation movements in South Africa and SWAPO in Namibia.

Concluding his interview, President Kaunda expressed the hope there will be more cooperation between Arab and African states, because they are all nonaligned, developing states. If we pool our resources, we will be in a position to achieve a great deal, he said.

Joint Statement Signed

LD171130 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 May 82

[Joint statement on the visit of Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda to Kuwait -- issued on 17 May]

[Text] In response to an invitation by His Royal Highness ash-Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, His Excellency Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, president of the Republic of Zambia, paid an official visit to the State of Kuwait from 15 to 17 May.

His Excellency the guest was afforded a welcome which reflects the good relations between the two countries and their two friendly peoples.

Formal talks were held in a cordial atmosphere between the leaders of the two states dealing with bilateral relations between the Republic of Zambia and the State of Kuwait and with the current international situation.

In the course of discussing bilateral relations between the two countries, they noted with satisfaction the growing development of cooperation, and expressed determination to continue to develop these relations in various fields.

On reviewing the international political situation, the two sides affirmed the importance of all countries intensifying their efforts to consolidate world peace and security on the basis of the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial security, noninterference in internal affairs and the peaceful solution of disputes between states.

The two sides expressed their conviction that the preservation of security and stability in the Gulf region is the responsibility of those states alone.

The Zambian side welcomed the establishment of the GCC.

The two sides asserted the need to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

When discussing the delicate and serious situation in the Middle East, the two sides affirmed that a just and permanent peace in the region cannot be achieved without the Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the restoration of the inalienable and legitimate national rights to the Palestinian people, including the right to establish their own independent state.

They also condemned Israel's practices which are contrary to human rights in the occupied Arab territories and its attempts to change the demographic nature of these territories.

The two sides expressed their concern for the continuation of the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran, and hope an urgent, peaceful solution will be found to this dispute. They expressed support for the efforts being made in this connection by the Islamic Conference Organization, by nonaligned states and the United Nations.

The two sides affirmed their total support for the African peoples struggling for the liquidation of colonialism, all forms of foreign domination, the rule of racist minorities and for attaining their freedom and independence.

As for South Africa, in conformity with the principle of the right of peoples to self-determination, the two sides expressed their support for the just struggle of the Namibian people led by SWAPO for the liberation and independence of Namibia.

They called on the international community to adopt effective steps to force South Africa to end its unlawful occupation of Namibia and to halt its repeated attacks against neighboring independent African states.

The two sides emphasized the importance of abiding by the fundamental principles of the Nonaligned Movement as a basic and important factor for consolidating peace and progress in the world. They also underlined the importance of solidarity and cooperation among nonaligned states.

Within the framework of Arab-African cooperation, the two sides expressed their determination to render full support for the success of meetings on all levels with the aim of embodying this cooperation.

His excellency the president of Zambia expressed his great thanks for the warm reception and generous hospitality afforded to him and his delegation by his royal highness the amir of Kuwait and the government and people of Kuwait. His excellency the president of the Republic of Zambia extended an invitation to his highness the amir of Kuwait to visit the Republic of Zambia. His highness accepted the invitation with thanks. Its date will be fixed later.

Departs for Bahrain

LD170738 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0718 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 17 May (KUNA) -- Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda left here today for Bahrain after a 3-day visit to Kuwait. He was seen off at the airport by his highness the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, with whom he had talks which centered on bilateral relations and Arab-African cooperation in light of Zaire's decision to resume its diplomatic relations with Israel. President Kaunda is also to visit Iraq.

OFFICIAL CONVEYS JABIR MESSAGE TO SADDAM HUSAYN

LD161642 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 16 May (KUNA) -- State Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn returned home Sunday following a short visit to Baghdad during which he conveyed a message to the Iraqi president, Saddam Husayn, from the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad.

The message dealt with latest developments in the region in light of current contacts between Arab leaders in addition to bilateral relations.

The meeting between the Iraqi president and the Kuwaiti minister was attended by member of the Revolution Command Council and Deputy Premier Tariq 'Aziz, Council Secretary Taris Hamad al-'Abdallah, State Minister for External Affairs Hamid Alwan and the Kuwaiti ambassador in Baghdad.

The message came just in the wake of a meeting Saturday of the Gulf Cooperation Council foreign ministers.

OMAN

SULTAN QABUS RETURNS FROM JORDAN 14 MAY

GF141348 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id today returned home from Amman after concluding a 4-day private visit to Jordan. His majesty arrived in Jordan from Cairo last Tuesday after concluding an official visit to Egypt, during which he held talks with Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak dealing with various issues of joint interest and bilateral relations.

TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 15 MAY

GF151302 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Muscat, 15 May (WAKH) -- Tanzanian Foreign Affairs Minister Salim Ahmad Salim arrived here today on a 5-day official visit to Oman.

During his visit, the Tanzanian minister will hold talks with senior Omani officials on various issues of mutual interest.

Official Talks Held

GF161524 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Official talks were held at the Foreign Ministry today between the Tanzanian side, led by Salim Ahmad Salim, Tanzanian foreign affairs minister,and the Omani side, led by Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs.

On the Tanzanian side the talks were attended by the delegation accompanying the visiting minister and by Abdullah Sueki, Tanzanian ambassador to Oman. On the Omani side the talks were attended by the heads of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry and the Omani ambassador to Tanzania.

During the talks, the good relations between the two friendly countries, Afro-Arab cooperation and the situation in Africa and in the Arab world were discussed.

SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE MINISTER WARNS OF USSR SUPPORT FOR IRAN

LD150932 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0733 GMT 15 May 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 15 May (KUNA) -- Saudi Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was quoted here today as saying that the Gulf region could become a theater of confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States as a result of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Kuwait's AL-ANBA reported that Prince Sultan told the paper in Geneva, where he is on vacation that he expects the Soviet Union will very soon declare its open and direct support, morally, militarily and politically, for Iran. The paper added that the Saudi minister believes that what is now taking place is 99 percent in the interest of the Soviet Union. The paper quoted him as also saying that such an intervention would lead to a foreign intervention of another kind which would give the Iraqi-Iranian war a more serious and wider dimension. He said the United States cannot leave the arena exclusively for the Soviet Union to intervene. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia supports Iraq in its war against Iran which broke out in September 1980, but has repeatedly called for an end to the fighting and for solving the dispute between Baghdad and Tehran by peaceful means.

Prince Sultan called for maximum pressure at Arab, Islamic and international levels in order to reach a cease-fire. He warned that the continuation of armed conflict between the two Gulf states endangers and greatly harms the entire region.

The Saudi minister pointed out that the solution of the issue stems from two basic principles -- immediate cease-fire, and for both Iraq and Iran to sit down at the negotiations table and seek responsibility for the cause of this war.

He said the emergency meeting of GCC foreign ministers here today should lead to an effective result which will help to solve this war; but he did not give any further details.

PRESS CALLS FOR JOINT ARAB ACTION TO END GULF WAR

LD151412 Riyadh SPA in English 1207 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 15 May (SPA) -- Saudi newspapers have expressed confidence that today's Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) foreign Ministers conference in Kuwait will be able to devise a "workable formula" to settle the Iraq-Iran war.

AL-JAZIRAH, published here, stressed that any delay in solving the war would endanger the Gulf's security and stability.

The paper urged Gulf leaders to free the region from the dangerous consequences and initiate urgent measures to seek a peaceful settlement of the dispute.

It asserted that it was the Gulf "regional responsibility to contain the prolongation of the conflict in the Arab and Islamic interest."

"Moreover, the benefits of ending the war will not be limited to the states of the Gulf region, but will also extend to the whole Arab nation," the paper said.

AL-JAZIRAH called for a joint Arab action to settle the Gulf war "since its consequences will have a far-reaching effect in serving the Palestinian cause and freeing the Arab inhabitants from Israeli oppressive practices in the occupied Arab lands."

Meanwhile, the Mecca-based AN-NADWAH urged the GCC foreign ministers to deal firmly with the "dangers emanating from the Iraq-Iran war to allow the Arab supreme interest to prevail over individual designs."

"We are confident the meeting will formulate some responsible measures in pursuit of peace and understanding among Arab and Muslim nations to ensure peace and stability in the region," the paper said.

The Jidda-based 'UKAZ called on Iraq and Iran to cease hostility and prevent an economic disaster and a castrophe befalling the two peoples.

The paper warned Arabs to collectively solve the conflict to safeguard Arab and Islamic interests.

The paper said nobody could benefit from the prolongation of the war except Israel, which has been encouraged to escalate its aggressive practices against the Palestinians in the occupied Arab lands.

AL-BILAD, also published in Jidda, said the GCC foreign ministers' conference would prepare a "working paper [words indistinct] on the region's future in the context of the current developments.

The paper deplored the "unfortunate prolongation" of the war between Iraq and Iran which it said could destroy the Arab strength and hinder Islamic progress.

"Both Iran and Israel are trying to push the region towards a fatal destination," the paper added.

PAPERS SCORES ZAIRE'S RENEWED TIES WITH ISRAEL

LD161408 Riyadh SPA in English 1208 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 16 May (SPA) -- Saudi newspapers strongly condemned today Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko's decision to establish diplomatic relations with Israel and accused him to flouting African consensus. The Jidda based AL-MADINAH said Zaire had taken the decision in defiance of an African resolution which had prevented African states from establishing diplomatic links with Israel, until it had pulled out from the occupied Arab territories. The paper said the decision was not a surprise to Arabs "since the Zionist enemy has been trying very hard to return to the African Continent.

"It seems difficult now to continue non-Muslim African states to sever their relations with Israel, since an Arab and a Muslim nation, namely Egypt, has established diplomatic ties with the Zionist entity," the paper added.

AL-MADINAH accused the U.S., European states and international Zionism to exercise pressure on African states to restore their normal relations with Israel.

The paper said Zaire has severely strained its relations with the Arab world by "the irresponsible and stupid action."

'UKAZ, published in Jidda, described Zaire's decision as "very dangerous."

The paper said Zaire's "unreasonable action will greatly harm its relations with the Arabs, who have been helping it with development aids."

The paper deplored President Mobutu's decision which it said was taken "in the face of growing Israeli aggression in the Middle East and Zionist oppresive practices in the occupied Arab territories."

The ARAB NEWS, published in Jidda, said there had been indications that President Mobutu would do so late last year but he was quick to deny it although he did cite then the normalisation of Egyptian-Israeli relations as an excuse for his country to restore relations with the Zionist state.

Zaire was saved by Arab troops and finances from dismemberment when opposition groups marched from Angola in 1977 to control Shaha Province, the paper said. "In the first instance, Moroccan troops and Arab contributions drove away the invaders and secured the province for President Mobutu whose hold on the rest of the country is at best nebulous," the paper said.

"Arabs have been helping Zaire with development aid, although it has been acknowledged by his American friends that most foreign aid is looted by senior officials and officers," it added.

The ARAB NEWS said, "There must be a firm and immediate Arab reaction to the Zairian challenge with a complete ban on further economic aid and financing in addition to downgrading of diplomatic relations."

"The Zairian move is not unrelated to the Costa Rican decision to shift its embassy in the Zionist state to occupied Jerusalem for both actions are American test ballons," the paper added.

UAE

KING HASSAN URGES CLOSER BILATERAL RELATIONS

GF111022 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 11 May 82

[Excerpt] UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a written message from King Hassan II of Morocco on bolstering bilateral relations in all fields, on current developments in the Arab and Islamic arenas and on international questions of mutual interest. The message also invites the president to visit Morocco. The president accepted the invitation and promised to fulfill it at the appropriate time. The message was delivered by Mansouri Benali, Moroccan transportation minister, during his meeting with the president this morning at Al-Khaznah resthouse.

AL-BAYAN WARNS OF ZAIRE'S RENEWED TIES WITH ISRAEL

GF160830 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0725 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Dubayy, 16 May (WAM) -- The newspaper AL-BAYAN warned today against the grave step which Zaire took on Friday of resuming diplomatic relations with Israel after a severance following the 1973 war when non-Arab African countries, including Zaire, broke off diplomatic relations in solidarity with the Arab stand.

The newspaper said this stand is grave because it is an Israeli step to break its isolation in Africa since 1973. The paper noted Isarel's attempts to continue moves and campaigns against the Arabs in Africa despite the establishment of a new kind of Afro-Arab relationship characterized by economic cooperation and massive economic aid by rich Arab countries to African countries.

In this regard the newspaper noted that the pledges by the Arab fund to African countries between 1973 and 1979 exceeded $4.367 billion. Zaire's share in this fund amounted to $428 million. A pledge was made to increase this sum to $1.339 billion in 1980 alone.

AL-BAYAN continued: "Now Zaire is hitting against the wall results of 10 years of fruitful, distinctive relationship between the Arabs and Africans and is holding the door wide open for the return of Zionist influence, which had offered the Black continent nothing thoughout its history except a revised version of old European colonialism."

The newspaper called on the Arabs to say something in this respect, "something supported by action so that Zaire's example does not become an example for others to follow."

PDRY

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED ON YSP CC MEETING

GF131630 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 May 82

["Text" of press statement issued by Secretary General of YSP Central Committee 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on proceedings of sixth ordinary session of YSP Central Committee issued on 13 May 1982 -- read by announcer]

[Text] The YSP Central Committee held its sixth ordinary session on 12 and 13 May. The committee discussed party, political and economic issues on its agenda including regional, Arab and international developments.

The topics discussed by the Central Committee were characterized by vitality and the compatibility of the priorities of the revolutionary tasks and duties of the party and state at this critical stage in the struggle of our Yemeni people and the Arab national liberation movement. In this context the Central Committee reviewed the efforts of the party organizations in the governorates and in the armed forces to complete the awakening phase [ad-dawrah al-intifadiyah] in the districts and governorates.

In light of the results of the elections in the party's base organizations and on the level of delegates' conferences in the centers and the governorates, efforts should be made so preparations for provincial conferences deepen party democracy and develop and strengthen the unity of struggle of party members on the intellectual, political and organizational levels, and so the political, economic and ideological activities of the party acquire a populist character through which ties with the toilers are strengthened and the worries of workers and other social toiling groups are recognized and expressed in a tangible manner.

In the course of its appraisal of the Yemeni situation, the Central Committee reviewed coordination and cooperation between the two parts of the homeland on the basis of unity agreements aimed at bringing about the reunification of the homeland on peaceful and democratic bases. The Central Committee expressed its satisfaction with the results of the recent meeting between the leaders of the two parts of the homeland in Ta'izz -- a meeting that was an extension of past meetings on unity.

The Central Committee views with great interest the activation and development of the methods to implement these agreements, including improvement of the standard of work of the joint institutions of the two parts of Yemen and strengthening and expanding all forms of cooperation, integration and coordination in various fields and all that is likely to contribute to the peaceful development of relations between the two parts of Yemen and foil the conspiratorial schemes of the forces hostile to our people -- forces seeking to liquidate the gains of 26 September and 14 October and consolidate the division existing between the two countries by creating obstacles along the road to unity.

The Central Committee stresses the need to continue exerting the greatest national efforts by cooperating and coordinating with the brothers in the northern part of the homeland in order to safeguard the creative and effective implementation of the agreements on unity and provide the conditions for the peaceful development of relations between the two parts of Yemen, to achieve the complete unity to which the masses of our people in the entire Yemeni homeland aspire.

On studying the activities of the party and state toward political developments around our country, the Central Committee expressed its profound satisfaction with the results of the external political moves by our party and country and with the efforts of the Political Bureau and government during the past period, efforts aimed at continuing the march along the path of peaceful coexistence and fruitful cooperation with neighboring countries and increasing our country's contribution to maintaining the region's security and stability and staving off the threats arising from the proclivity for aggression of the imperialist military presence on their territory and in their waters and skies, and also strengthening the relations of struggle linking our party and people with all progressive and nationalist [wataniyah] forces and regimes in the course of the struggle against the conspiratorial designs and policies of aggression of the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary forces.

The Central Committee appraised the visits by the comrade secretary general to Cuba, Nicaragua, Algeria, Libya and the UAE and his meetings with the leaders of those fraternal and friendly countries. The Central Committee highly valued the strengthening of continuing contacts and relations between our country and the countries of the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and the Aden tripartite agreement to strengthen the unity of the factions of the Arab and African national liberation movement and their steadfastness in the face of current challenges.

The Central Committee believes the external political moves and activities carried out by the party and state embody their firm and aware commitment to the principle of peaceful coexistence and international solidarity, a principle guiding our external policy and international relations. These moves and activities have contributed to the development of our country's peaceful policy in its relations with its neighbors and in affirming its commitment to the interests of the people of the area and to the legitimate national liberation causes of our Arab people, as well as to deepening the alliance of our country and people with all forces of liberation, progress, socialism and peace in the Arab homeland and in the world.

The Central Committee discussed Arab developments in light of the expansionist and aggressive policies of the U.S.-Zionist alliance in the Middle East and the increasing conspiratorial threats to the Palestinian revolution, Syria, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, Libya and Algeria -- threats aimed at weakening the steadfastness of these revolutionary forces and at halting their vanguard role in the national liberation struggle of our Arab peoples.

In this regard the Central Committee reviewed with deep anxiety and great interest the escalation in the conspiratorial and aggressive activity against our country represented by training, supplying and sending saboteurs and weapons of death and destruction into our country to destroy vital economic installations, burn residential areas and kill innocent people. All these moves coincide with the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary onslaught whose purpose is to strike at the Arab national liberation movement and restore complete imperialist hegemony over the resources and destiny of the peoples of our Arab nation.

The Central Committee believes that present challenges confront the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front with vital duties of struggle in mobilizing its resources and capabilities to confront the grave conspiracies currently being carried out to implement the traitorous and conspiratorial Camp David plan through various forms and guises, including endeavors to make other Arab parties join this scheme. In this regard the Central Committee emphasizes the importance of Egypt's return to Arab ranks on the condition that it abandons the pursuit of this policy that is hostile to the interests, hopes and aspirations of our Arab peoples and abides by the Arab concensus opposing the Camp David policy and all forms of plotting against the national rights of our Arab peoples, foremost among which is the right of the Palestinian people under the PLO's leadership to repatriation, to build their independent state and to self-determination.

The YSP Central Committee also discussed the tragic situation of the Iraqi-Iranian war which has inflicted and continues to inflict great damage on the capabilities of the two neighboring countries and their ability to struggle against imperialism and Zionism, the common enemy of the just struggle waged by the Arab and Iranian nations. The Central Committee stressed the correctness and soundness of our country's stand which calls for an end to this war and the resolution of the problems between the two countries by (?practical means).

During this session the Central Committee devoted an important part of its work to the study of the country's economic situation in light of the efforts being exerted by workers and toilers and their mass organizations in all work and production sites to implement the projects of the second 5-year development plan. The Central Committee stressed the importance of combatting shortcomings and negative aspects likely to hamper the growth and development of the work of the economic and supply apparatus and reduce their effectiveness in serving the toilers.

In this regard the Central Committee discussed the situation and activities of the popular supervision committees in 1981 throughout the country's governorates. The committee adopted the necessary measures to improve these activities and to complete the formation of subcommittees at all work and production sites.

In view of the fact that the supervision of the signs of observance of the laws and regulations against violations is a revolutionary task that falls upon all citizens, the Central Committee urges party and mass organizations and all workers and toilers to cooperate with the popular supervision committees to expose -- and bring to account [those responsible for] -- all the errors that cause general damage to the national economy and to the toilers' standard of living.

In the course of its discussion of the economic situation, the YSP Central Committee reviewed the enormous losses sustained by citizens and the national economy as a result of the flood disaster and the rains that swept the PDRY in March 1982. The Central Committee expressed its great appreciation of and great satisfaction with the role played by the party and mass organizations, the armed forces, government institutions, economic establishments and the citizens in overcoming the consequences of this disaster, extending the necessary assistance to the victims of the floods and supporting the national campaign to redress the damage sustained by our national economy. The Central Committee also valued all the support, assistance, commisseration and solidarity extended by fraternal and friendly countries, international organizations and nationalist [wataniyah] and progressive Arab and international forces in helping our country face the consequences of this painful ordeal.

The sixth session of the Central Committee reaffirmed the comprehensive and planned interest which our party and its Central Committee attach to the continuation of the revolutionary process taking place in the country to complete the tasks of the [current] stage of the democratic and national socialist revolution. The topics put forward during the session and the debates that took place on these topics embodied the continual development in the methods of the party, political and economic leadership of various aspects of the public life of workers and toilers to creatively implement the party's general policy and the resolutions of the party's general extraordinary conference.

YAR

PDRY'S 'ANTAR ARRIVES IN SAN'A', MAKES STATEMENT

JN151457 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] San'a' -- Prime Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani gave a luncheon in his house today in honor of Brother 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of local government in the southern part of the homeland, and those accompanying him. Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, a number of the Consultative Council members and ministers attended. Brother 'Ali Nasir 'Antar arrived in San'a' this morning.

In a statement to SABA' news agency, Brother 'Antar said that his visit comes within the framework of the brotherly contacts and meetings of the leaderships of the two parts of the homeland. It is aimed at following up the results of the recent Ta'izz meeting between Presidents Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad in the service of our peoples who hope for the restoration of unity of the homeland. 'Antar reiterated the desire of the two leaderships in the two parts of the homeland to follow up all the issues which were agreed upon in the fields of joint coordination and cooperation and to increase the fruitful and brotherly cooperation which would bolster the stability of our peoples and ensure their future, progress and the implementation of the aims and principles of the 26 September and 14 October revolutions in honor of the Yemeni martyrs.

Brother 'Ali 'Antar said: We sincerely believe our people, who support every step toward unity, are the source of our strength, adding that since unity is their wish, no one can stop the Yemeni peoples' march. 'Antar concluded: We hope the 20th anniversary of the 26 September Revolution will be a year of further accomplishments and unity for our Yemeni people. 'Antar was welcomed by Brothers Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs; Lt Col Husayn ad-Daf'i, presidential adviser for unity affairs; Lutfi al-Kilabi, minister of local government; Interior Minister Lt Col 'Ali 'Uthrub; Lt Col Sa'id Muhammad Ghanim, assistant chief of staff for training affairs and a representative of the Protocol Department.

ISRAELI DELEGATION ARRIVES TO DISCUSS TABAH

NC162050 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2007 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- An Israeli delegation headed by Brig Gen Dov Siyan, chairman of the Military Committee and head of the Israeli delegation to the Tabah talks, arrived in Cairo this evening. The talks will begin in Isma'ilia tomorrow. The Egyptian side to these talks will be headed by Rear Adm Muhsin Hamdi, chairman of the Military Committee.

The 2-day talks will deal with the special interim arrangements in the Tabah area and with the way life will proceed there until a final agreement has been reached.

'Ali Meets With Delegation

NC161800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1543 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with members of the Egyptian delegation to the 2-day Egyptian-Israeli meetings that will be held in Isma'ilia tomorrow. They will continue discussion on the method of implementing the agreement signed between the two sides on 26 April concerning the dispute over the Tabah area.

It has been learned that during the meeting they reviewed what had been achieved during the first session of meetings on this subject, which were held in Elat last week, and which centered on security arrangements in Tabah and the maintenance of security in the area by the multinational force during the period in which the dispute is being settled. Discussion of this subject will continue during the Isma'ilia meetings.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali has given instructions to the Egyptian delegation to these meetings. The delegation will be headed by Rear Adm Muhsin Hamdi and will include Ambassadors Fawzi al-Abrashi, Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, 'Ismat Rida and 'Abd al-Halim Badawi.

MENA has learned that Egypt's stand during these meetings on the Tabah dispute is based on firm principles providing for adherence to the contents of the agreement signed between Egypt and Israel on 26 April in all its clauses and provisions as well as on the necessity of seeing to it that any temporary arrangements that may be reached will not jeopardize Egypt's interests and inalienable rights in the area.

MENA has also learned that contacts will take place between Egypt and Israel to agree on covening other bilateral meetings at the level of jurists and experts to discuss implementation of Article 7 of the peace agreement, which provides for concilation or arbitration between the two sides in case of a dispute, and to choose a suitable method for conciliation or arbitration.

The Isma'ilia meetings will be held at the level of liaison officers and experts. It is worth noting that Egypt has formed a committee that comprises legal adviser Wahid Ra'fat and a number of law professors and Foreign Ministry experts. They will prepare the methods suitable for arbitration that Egypt desires. Arbitration is binding to the two sides, whereas conciliation is not.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON TABAH ARBITRATION

NC152245 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2155 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 15 May (MENA) -- An Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman has said the letter Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali sent recently to Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir includes Egypt's view on the need for resorting as soon as possible to international arbitration concerning the border problem in Tabah.

In a statement to be published in AL-AHRAM tomorrow, the spokesman said Kamal Hasan 'Ali's letter also notes the need for a speedy resolution of the Tabah problem so a dispute on the demarcation of the border will not affect bilateral relations and their future development. The letter also notes that the Tabah problem needs to be resolved so it will not lead to feelings of frustration among the Egyptian people at the beginning of the normalization of bilateral relations toward respecting the provisions of the peace treaty. The treaty clearly provides for resorting to arbitration or conciliation in resolving any dispute arising from the application or interpretation of the treaty.

The Egyptian spokesman was commenting on a statement by the Israeli minister of tourism, which was broadcast over Israel radio, that giving up Tabah would result in a psychological crisis for Elat's inhabitants and demanding [taalaba] that Egypt reach a compromise between the two countries instead of resorting to arbitration.

BRITISH DELEGATION ARRIVES IN CAIRO 15 MAY

NC152044 Cairo MENA in English 1910 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 15 May (MENA) -- British Foreign Undersecretary John Leahy arrived here from Amman on a two-day visit to Egypt for talks with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali and First Foreign Undersecretary Usamah al-Bas. He stated upon his arrival that the purpose of his visit to Cairo was to get acquainted with all questions relating to the Middle East, particularly the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The British official paid a visit to Jordan and Syria, respectively, within a tour to a number of states in the area prior to his arrival here.

'Ali, Leahy Meeting

NC161815 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with British Foreign Under Secretary John Leahy, who arrived in Cairo yesterday. During the meeting, 'Ali reviewed the situation in the Middle East, focusing on current efforts to reach an agreement on the proposed Palestinian authority in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the transition period. 'Ali also reviewed the European role in giving momentum to the peace process in order to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region. The two discussed bilateral relations and the means of strengthening them in various fields.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali will meet later today with the British foreign under secretary, who is currently visiting Egypt within the framework of a tour of a number of the states in the area that has thus far taken him to Jordan and Syria.

Ghali, Leahy Meeting

NC162117 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met this evening with John Leahy, British foreign under secretary. At the outset of the meeting, Dr Ghali explained developments in the Middle East in light of the completion of the Israeli withdrawal. He also explained the Egyptian plan of action to achieve a comprehensive settlement.

UK, ARGENTINA ASKED TO OBSERVE CEASE-FIRE

NC161603 Cairo MENA in English 1205 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) — Egypt called today on both Britain and Argentina to cease fire and observe self-restraint while seeking a peaceful settlement for their dispute over the Falkland Islands. A Foreign Ministry release affirmed that continued military confrontation between the two countries threatens world peace and menaces endeavours to realise prosperity and economic development for world states. The Foreign Ministry statement expressed Egypt's concern over the recent situation and the expansion of the fighting between Britain and Argentina. It called upon the two countries to work for a cease-fire and to practice self-restraint so as to achieve a peaceful settlement that secures the interests and legitimate rights of the parties concerned. The statement further said that continued fighting does not only threaten peace and security south of the Atlantic but also threatens world peace and efforts exerted to realise well-being and economic development for the entire world.

URUGUAYAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDES CAIRO VISIT

NC161540 Cairo MENA in English 1432 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- Uruguay Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes Otero left here this afternoon after a four-day official visit. While here, he conveyed a message to President Husni Mubarak from the president of Uruguay. He also held talks with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali. The visiting minister signed a tourism cooperation agreement between Egypt and Uruguay. He was seen off at Cairo International Airport by Dr Ghali.

Statement Issued

NC161214 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1125 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- Egypt and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay have reaffirmed their desire to strengthen political, economic, cultural and tourist relations. This is contained in the joint statement issued today on the talks held between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay. The text of the statement follows:

In response to an official invitation from the Egyptian Government, Dr Estanislao Valdes Otero, foreign minister of Uruguay, paid a visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt 12-16 May. During the visit, he had the honor of meeting with President Husni Mubarak and handed him a message from the president of the Republic of Uruguay. He then met with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

He also met with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and resumed the dialogue they had initiated at previous meetings, reaffirming the desire of the two governments to strengthen political, economic, cultural and tourist relations.

They exchanged opinions expressing the viewpoints of Egypt and Uruguay on various political and international affairs. They also analyzed the situation in the South Atlantic and the Middle East and the developments and future of the peace process in this area.

GHALI CONFERS WITH ROMANIA'S NICULESCU 15 MAY

NC151328 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1140 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 15 May (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met today with Paul Niculescu, member of the Romanian Communist Party Political Executive Committee, who is currently visiting Cairo. They discussed the latest developments in the Middle East situation and Romania's role in pushing peace efforts in the current stage following the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai as well as bolstering bilateral relations in the economic, trade and cultural spheres.

ROMANIAN, PRC OFFICIALS TO VISIT CAIRO IN MAY

NC152222 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2135 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 15 May (MENA) -- Several officials from friendly states will visit Cairo in May within the framework of the intensive activity Egyptian diplomacy is currently embarking upon to give momentum to the peace efforts and to strengthen relations between Egypt and various friendly states in all fields, particularly in the economic and trade fields.

MENA has learned the officials to visit Egypt include Romania Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei, who will arrive in Cairo on 25 May. PRC Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs He Ying will visit Egypt around the end of May.

The Romanian foreign minister and the PRC vice minister of foreign affairs will hold talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Egyptian officials on the situation in the Middle East and the possibility of arriving at a comprehensive and just peace in the area. They will also discuss bilateral relations.

GDR PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO VISIT IN JUNE

NC160722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- A parliamentary delegation from the GDR will visit Egypt in June for the first time since 1977 and since the peace initiative and the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ilah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee, announced this to the weekly newspaper AS-SIYASI.

MUBARAK, MUHYI AD-DIN DISCUSS PARTY AFFAIRS

NC161137 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 16 May 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- Following his 45-minute meeting with President Husni Mubarak this morning, Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said they discussed the new gubernatorial appointments that are expected to be announced today.

Asked whether there will be changes in the National Democratic Party, he said: I submitted to the president some ideas about the new set up of the party's Secretariat General, committee chairmen, filling some vacancies and the necessary and inevitable coordination between the government and the party through the formation of committees that will link ministers and committee chairmen in the party and the People's Assembly and Consultative Council.

The president approved this idea, which will be formulated and on which decisions will be issued so the committee chairmen in the two assemblies can participate in the party committees' work. The purpose of this is to link the various institutions and merge them within the framework of party action.

Regarding the party political bureau meeting, the prime minister said it will meet at a later, as yet undetermined date.

MUBARAK APPOINTS SEVEN NEW GOVERNORS 16 MAY

NC161912 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1828 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today issued a republican decree appointing the following seven new governors:

1. Dr 'Abd al-Hamid Hasan, governor of Al-Jizah.
2. Dr Fawzi Ma'az, governor of Alexandria.
3. Fikri 'Abd al-Hamid Muhammad Ahmad, governor of Al-Gharbiyah.
4. Zaki Badr, governor of Asyut.
5. Bakir Muhammad Bakir, governor of Suez.
6. Dr Muhammad Kamil ar-Rayyis, governor of Bani Suwayf.
7. 'Ali Ibrahim 'Ali, governor of Sawhaj.

The decree appoints Dr Hamdi 'Abd al-Hakim, governor of Al-Fayyum as governor of Al-Manufiyah, and appoints Tharwat 'Atallah, governor of Sawhaj, as governor of Al-Fayyum.

CABINET APPROVES BILL TO AMEND EMERGENCY LAW

NC142232 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2152 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 14 May (MENA) -- In Saturday's edition, the newspaper AL-AHRAM reports that at its recent meeting under Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the Cabinet approved a bill to amend some provisions of the emergency law whereby complaints about arrest and detention will fall under the jurisdiction of the courts. AL-AHRAM adds that the amendment has given this jurisdiction to the state supreme security court.

AL-AHRAM notes that this decision has been adopted in implementation of President Husni Mubarak's instructions that emergency regulations be lessened and used on the narrowest scale.

POLICE ARREST ANTIGOVERNMENT GROUP LEADERS

NC161635 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- Interior Minister Maj Gen Hasan Abu Basha has declared that the day before yesterday police seized a new organization of the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation [Takfir] and arrested all its leaders.

The interior minister emphasized that foreign forces are trying to carry out activities to jeopardize national security and stability. He added that investigations have proved that some of these foreign forces have been in touch with terrorist groups in the country and are supplying them with funds and leaflets.

After a meeting he held today with the assistants to the interior minister, security directors in the governorates and directors of Interior Ministry departments, Major General Abu Basha affirmed that police are aware of these foreign contacts and their dimensions and have plans for frustrating their activities.

The interior minister has asked all police departments to coordinate their work in accordance with established plans in order to perfect their observation and control of all movements aimed at harming national security and to confront them firmly and forcefully.

Interior Minister Major General Abu Basha has also asked police commands to familiarize themselves with the dimensions of the coming phase and to consolidate the climate of stability and the citizens' sense of security and safety through planned and serious work.

During their meeting today, the interior minister reviewed with police commands the state of security during the past 3 months. There has been a decrease in most kinds of crime, particularly murder and robbery.

Major General Abu Basha also reviewed the state of economic security and attempts by some persons to misuse public food supplies. He emphasized the need for confronting such persons forcefully as well as the need for securing food supplies for all citizens within fixed price limits.

AL-AKHBAR ON 'EXPLOSIVE SITUATION' IN GULF WAR

NC162303 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2224 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) -- The newspaper AL-AKHBAR has demanded [taalabat] that Gulf officials courageously face the explosive situation in the area, take a candid stance and face matters realistically in lieu of resorting to formalities that do not place things in their true perspective.

In a commentary in tomorrow's edition, AL-AKHBAR notes Iran's threats to export revolution as well as the Saudi foreign minister's affirmations that the Soviet Union will officially announce its support for Iran with everything at its disposal. The paper says the next few days will witness overt confrontations and axial [mihwariyah] policies pointed in a known direction.

The paper expresses confidence that the Soviets were inevitably behind the recent Iranian attack launched against Iraq, adding that the Soviets based their plan on refraining from decisively settling the war between the two sides. On the contrary, the Soviets formulated their plan on the basis of fomenting chaos and causing skirmishes intended to set the scene and provide an opportunity for intervening so they will be able to achieve their ambitions and interests in the area.

AL-AKHBAR deduces that because the Iranians intend to export revolution, and because the Soviets intend to assist the Iranians in doing this, the Iranians will seek to create a large pool of "troubled water" -- a pool in which the Soviets will find their requirements and in which they will know how to apply their techniques to acquire what they want.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM KUWAITI AMIR

JN160943 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 May (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn this afternoon received 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs. The Kuwaiti minister conveyed an oral message to President Saddam Husayn from his brother the Kuwaiti amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, on bilateral relations and the latest developments in the region in light of current contacts among the Arab brothers. The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister; Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary and acting head of the president's office; Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs and the Kuwaiti ambassador in Baghdad. The Kuwaiti minister arrived in Baghdad earlier today on a brief visit to Iraq.

PRESS DENOUNCES AL-ASAD, AL-QADHDHAFI STAND

JN170917 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 17 May (INA) -- Iraqi papers today launch a vehement attack on Hafiz al-Asad and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, condemning their treasonous attitude toward the Arab nation.

The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says the history of the Syrian and Libyan rulers with all its black pages confirms these rulers' ceaseless and constant hostile designs against the Arab nation's struggle and exposes their acts of sabotage, intrigue and plotting which impede the Arab people's attempts to liberate the land and people from persecution, usurpation and subservience.

Continuing, ATH-THAWRAH asserts that the reckless ruler of Libya has been mobilizing the Libyan people's resources in the service of sabotage, terrorism and sick dreams. It adds the stand of this duo -- Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi -- has been in support of the Iranian war against Iraq since the outbreak of this war. Their vileness and sick minds have driven them to announce their hostile stand on an issue that belongs to an Arab state defending its cities, civilization and citizens against expansionism, destruction and racism.

ATH-THAWRAH says the Syrian and Libyan rulers' support for the Iranian rulers' rancor and expansionist designs against the Arab nation and its dignity will backfire and furthermore, will bring more shame, humiliation and contempt upon them. The Arab nation, the paper adds, is not afraid of these petty agents and will continue to adopt the sound pan-Arab course to confront the dangers menacing it, including those resulting from Iranian expansionist designs and those which are meant to ruin the nation's past, present and future.

On its part, AL-JUMHURIYAH says from the first day of the battle, the Syrian and Libyan rulers unveiled their treasonous stand and alliance with the Iranian regime as well as their continued overt and covert support for it. It adds that the grudges the Damascus and Tripoli rulers harbor for Iraq, its victorious revolution and historic leadership, continually incite them to commit atrocities far worse than those committed by the Zionist enemy, thus flouting all values and norms. These rulers have always been at liberty to support the Iranian regime and its aggressive and racist policies and practices.

AL-JUMHURIYAH asserts the treason of the Syrian and Libyan rulers will never weaken the Iraqis, adding that Iraq will remain lofty and unaffected by the treasonous stands of these rulers.

The newspaper AL-'IRAQ describes the recent Syrian-Libyan stand as a further setback in contemporary Arab history and says it reflects a black, unprecendented, treasonous state that will push the Arab nation toward weak positions and toward pursuing reckless policies that serve the Iranian, Zionist and imperialist objectives in the Arab region. It adds that this state will effect the march of freedom, progress and independence in the Third World and developing countries, which are pinning great hopes on the nonaligned summit conference to be held in Baghdad next September.

AL-'IRAQ says the Syrian and Libyan stands contravene all national and pan-Arab values, traditions and principles and are primarily aimed at wrecking Arab interests, inviting imperialist infiltration and at finding strong components for the imperialist-Zionist design Tel Aviv and Tehran are implementing against the Arab nation. It says the Syrian and Libyan stands constitute a state of defeatism in Arab relations contradicting all honorable values and criteria in Arab traditions. Patriotic and national forces should not remain silent about this abnormal situation, because it might be repeated not only against Iraq but also against any Arab side that might face similar circumstances.

In conclusion, AL-'IRAQ asserts that the Syrian and Libyan stand is a grave precedent in Arab relations affecting and harming the Arab nation's interests. This stand will continue unless it is firmly confronted by a responsible stand.

RAMADAN VISITS CAMP, TALKS TO ARAB VOLUNTEERS

JN161841 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Comrade Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and commander of the Popular Army, today visited the Hamah training camp where the fighters are being trained so they can have the honor of participating in the glorious battle of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah. Ramadan inspected the camp and saw Arab volunteers from the YAR, Egypt, Syria, Sudan, Djibouti, Eritrea, Jordan, Somalia, Palestine and the Arab Maghreb states. The volunteers were carrying out their training with great ability and efficiency.

Comrade Ramadan urged the instructors to give them combat and special training which will enable them to carry out their pan-Arab role of struggle alongside their Iraqi brothers. He said these heroes are a bright picture of the future of our Arab nation and its struggling masses who are confronting the colluding imperialists, Zionists and these who are Arabs in name only. He said this experience must be entrenched in the tasks of the Popular Army which has received hundreds of Arab volunteers to strengthen the front and add to the momentum of the battle. He was referring to thousands of Arab volunteers now participating in the battle of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah on the front.

Ramadan said the Arabs' sincere participation in the battle symbolizes the unity of fate and aims and must be greatly appreciated.

Ramadan was accompanied by Comrades Samir Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, commander of the Baghdad area of the Popular Army, his assistant Ahmad Muhsin 'Alwan and a number of Popular Army General Command officials.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 710

JN141614 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1514 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 14 May (INA) -- During the past 24 hours, Iraqi forces killed 25 Iranians and destroyed 1 vehicle, 1 gun, 2 observation posts and 1 stockpile of hardware.

Communique No 710 issued today by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command says our valiant units continued to pound enemy positions and units north of the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area, killing 16 personnel and destroying 1 vehicle and 1 gun. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 710 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defense of the rights of the great Iraqi people to sovereignty and dignity, our armed forces are continuing their activities on the front against the racist Iranians. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our valiant units continued pounding enemy positions and units north of the Al-Muhammarah area, killing 16 personnel and destroying 1 vehicle, 1 106-mm gun, 2 observation posts and 1 stockpile of hardware.

2. Enemy personnel were spotted on the Iranian side in front of our positions at Panjwin. Our forces pounded the enemy gathering, killing nine Iranians.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amounted to 25 killed and 1 vehicle, 1 106-mm gun, 2 observation posts and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed.

3. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: Six martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles and one mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 May 1982

Communique No 711

JN151644 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 May 82

[Communique No 711 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah, who believe in God Almighty and in their legitimate fighting, continued to confront the spiteful enemy with strength and capability, depending on heavenly principles, the spirit of our great ancestors and the resolution of the noble Iraqi people and their glorious Arab nation. The Iraqi soldiers will continue to inflict further losses on the aggressors until they return to their senses, recognize their true border, respect Iraq's rights and those of the Arab nation and give up their black agressive and expansionist designs. The following is the outcome of the activities last night and today.

1. Last night our heroic units launched a lightning attack on the enemy's units and positions on the (Ash-Shihabi) post. Following a fiery battle in which all types of weapons were used, most of the enemy force was destroyed and crushed. The rest fled the battlefront, leaving behind weapons and equipment. The known enemy losses amounted to 915 killed whose bodies still litter the battlefield; a large number of personnel wounded and captured; 8 tanks, 21 armored personnel carriers, 4 vehicles, 6 bulldozers and 3 excavators destroyed; and 3 tanks, 10 armored personnel carriers, 1 vehicle and large quantities of various types of serviceable weapons and equipment were seized.

2. Our brave units pounded enemy positions and concentrations north of Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr], killing 13 and destroying 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 excavator and 3 stockpiles of hardware.

3. Throughout the day, our brave air force eagles continued their daring and successful raids against the enemy positions and concentrations north of the Al-Muhammarah and Karun regions in the southern sector of the operations theater, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment and confirming their full control of the battleskies. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

4. Throughout the day, our helicopters carried out successful raids against enemy personnel, armor and vehicles north of Al-Muhammarah and west of the Karun River, scoring direct hits and destroying seven tanks, three armored personnel carriers and eight vehicles. All our helicopters returned safely to base.

5. Two enemy helicopters were shot down by our air defenses this morning in the (Ash-Shihabi) post area.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amounted to 928 killed, whose bodies still litter the battlefield; a large number of wounded and prisoners; 15 tanks, 25 armored personnel carriers, 12 vehicles, 6 bulldozers, 4 excavators and 3 stockpiles of hardware destroyed; 2 helicopters downed; 3 tanks, 10 armored personnel carriers, 1 vehicle and a large quantity of various serviceable types of weapons and equipment seized.

6. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: 22 martyrs.
B. In equipment: Three tanks, five armored personnel carriers and four vehicles damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 May 1982

Communique No 712

JN161702 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1605 GMT 16 May 82

[Communique No 712 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our great victories are increasing and multiplying with each day of our just battle. The defeats and failures of the oppressive clique in Iran are also multiplying. The clique is insisting on its arrogance and is continuing its aggression against our Arab nation and people. The results of the activities on the front for last night and today are as follows:

1. At dawn today one of our units attacked enemy positions and units in front of our forces north of the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area and clashed with them using various weapons. During the battle, the enemy lost 25 killed; a number of wounded; and 2 tanks, 3 guns, 5 large vehicles carrying troops were destroyed. Other Iraqi units continued to pound and destroy enemy positions and concentrations in the same area killing 14 and destroying 6 vehicles, 4 of which were carrying troops, and 1 stockpile of hardware. Our forces captured two Chieftain tanks and one armored troop carrier.

2. Our air force planes and army helicopters all day today raided enemy targets north of Al-Muhammarah area and west of the Karun River scoring direct hits against enemy positions, armor and equipment. All our fighter planes and helicopters returned safely to base.

3. At 1150 today enemy naval targets were spotted in the Kur-e Mush area. At 1325 two naval targets were destroyed after being directly hit. The two targets were seen in flames and plunging into the sea.

4. Eight were killed and two 106-mm guns were destroyed in the Mimak area in front of our positions in Sayf Sa'd.

5. Two armored troop carriers and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the (Jananah) area.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amount to 45 killed; 2 tanks, 2 armored carriers, 5 guns, 11 vehicles, 9 of which were carrying troops, 2 large naval targets, and 2 stockpiles of hardware destroyed; and 2 Chieftain tanks and 1 armored troop carrier captured.

6. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all secotrs.
B. Two armored troop carriers, one mortar and one vehicle damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 May 1982

ANTI-EGYPTIAN RADIO REJECTS CAMP DAVID 'ALLIANCE'

JN141642 Baghdad Voice of Egypt of Arabism in Arabic 1913 GMT 13 May 82

[Station commentary by 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Ghazali]

[Excerpts] Arabs are waging many battles today for the sake of liberation and unity. They are waging these battles against diverse, hostile forces. They are battles embodied in the long history of the Arab national liberation movement. These battles are being waged for the sake of liberation from international imperialism and Zionism.

The unity of Arab ranks cannot be other than as defined by the Arabs' struggling movement. It must be unity against the movement of the enemies of this nation since As-Sadat's treason in joining the Camp David alliance. It must be unity against Zionist aggression on the Palestinian revolution and Lebanon; unity against the special strategic agreement between the United States and Israel; unity against the autonomy conspiracy; unity against the Persian aggression on Iraq. Any unity of Arab ranks for reasons other than all these objectives can only mean victory for the enemies of this nation and the U.S.-Zionist plan.

The Arabism of Egypt is an established fact. No power on earth can change that. Commitment to Camp David has paralyzed the Egyptian role and isolated Egypt, but it has not destroyed Egypt's Arabism. This is an established fact. As for commitment to Camp David, it was imposed on Egypt and we are seeking and fighting to change it. The Egyptian national struggle believes the unity of Arab ranks with continued commitment to Camp David means expansion of the Camp David alliance and the building of the unity of ranks under the umbrella of the U.S. plan, which cannot be accepted. This unity would not be directed at the enemies of this nation but at the very existence of this nation.

The achievement of unity among Arab ranks remains an essential and urgent basic duty. However, there must be unity against the U.S.-Zionist plan, against the Camp David alliance, against the autonomy conspiracy, against Zionist aggression, against the Persian aggression on Iraq and against any ruler who fights alongside our enemies. It is a unity so the Arab national liberation movement will carry out its wish and decision, not give this wish and decision to others.

OMAN'S QABUS ENDS PRIVATE VISIT, DEPARTS

JN141814 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 May 82

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman left the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan this morning following a 4-day private visit with His Majesty King Husayn.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CABLE ON ISRAEL-ZAIRE TIES

JN151610 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Amman, 15 May (PETRA) -- The Foreign Ministry today sent cables to the OAU secretary general, the Islamic Conference Organization secretary general and the Arab League secretary general concerning reports that Zaire officially announced resumption of its diplomatic relations with Israel. The Foreign Ministry asked the secretaries general to acquaint all member states with the gravity of this measure initiated by the Zairian Government. It is to be recalled that Zaire was among 20 African states severing relations with Israel in view of the Israeli expansionist and aggressive policy.

The Foreign Ministry explained that Zaire is a signatory of the declaration adopted by the first Arab-African summit conference held in Cairo 7-9 March 1977. Article XVI of the declaration condemned Zionism and all kinds of racial and religious discrimination, particularly in Africa and occupied Palestine. The Foreign Ministry explained that the factors that prompted the severance of relations with Israel still exist, because Israel continues to occupy the Arab land and to reject the UN resolutions defining the bases of the just and all-embracing peace in the region.

BRITISH DELEGATION LEAVES AMMAN 15 MAY

JN151725 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Sir John Leahy, British assistant foreign secretary, and his delegation left Amman today following a 3-day visit during which the delegation met with Crown Prince Hasan and a number of senior officials and visited cultural and tourist centers. In a departure statement to the Jordanian news agency correspondent, Sir John Leahy expressed satisfaction with his visit to Jordan. He expressed hope that British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym would visit Jordan -- a visit which former Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington should have paid before his recent resignation.

Answering a question on Britain's stand on the Middle East problem in general, the situation in the occupied Arab territories and Israel's aggressive policy in these territories, Leahy said: The British Government has made clear its position on this issue. This position is based on Britain's membership in the EEC. Britain has repeatedly and firmly said Israel should withdraw from the territories it occupied in 1967. This British stand is still valid and has not been subjected to any doubt. He said efforts must continue to find a way out of the current deadlock in the autonomy negotiations. The British Government, he added, is greatly concerned about developments in the occupied territories.

On the Iraqi-Iranian war and the British stand on this war, Leahy emphasized the need for concerted international efforts to end this war in view of its threats to both countries and to the region.

Answering a question on developments in the struggle between Britain and Argentina on the Falkland Islands, Leahy said the current New York negotiations have reached a critical stage and Britain firmly believes both sides must hold negotiations to end the crisis and reach a peaceful solution provided that this solution is based on UN resolutions in this regard, which Argentina is still ignoring.

ARMY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON 15 MAY CONVOY ATTACK

NC151609 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 May 82

[Communique issued by the Lebanese Army Command's guidance directorate -- date and place not given]

[Text] Among the string of the attacks to which the Lebanese Army was sugjected to in the south, men of the Ahmad al-Khatib group laid an ambush for 3 jeeps in the Ar-Rumaylah area on the Sidon-Beirut road. These men suddenly sprayed these vehicles with bullets and RPG projectiles.

This treacherous act resulted in the martyrdom of soldier 'Adnan al-Ghul and the wounding of the following soldiers: Sabir Hamzah, Hassan Ni'mah, Hassan Jum'ah, Naji Shalhub, Muhammad Dib, 'Abd ar-Rahim Hamadah, Bisharah Tannus, 'Ali ak-Akhras and Ahmad Ghazalah.

This attack furnishes yet further evidence about the ferocious onslaught to which the army is being subjected, particularly in the southern area, in a desperate attempt to prevent it from performing its role on the ground.

Sarkis, Aides Discuss

NC151415 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Amid a security situation which no sooner calms down in one area than it erupts or intensifies in another, officials today found their attention divided among several interest worthy cases. While the Israeli threat is growing on the border, officials this morning were preoccupied with the interception of three Lebanese Army vehicles on the Sidon-Beirut road and with the tension which this incident has created in Sidon and its suburbs. Meanwhile, the situation in Tripoli requires follow up and interest to consolidate peace there.

In connection with the current security and political problems, President Ilyas Sarkis today met with Public Security Director Prince Faruq Abi al-Lam' and then with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus after the authorities were informed of the interception of the three Lebanese Army vehicles in the Ar-Rumaylah area on the Beirut-Sidon road. The conferees were later joined by the Arab Deterrent Forces commander, Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib, who submitted the results of the contacts underway between Beirut and Damascus to tackle the situation in Tripoli in a radical way.

Al-Wazzan Statement

NC151602 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] We interrupt news reports about the Falklands and return to the Republican Palace in B'abda. We have just been notified that the meeting held in the palace ended at 1330 [1130 GMT]. Immediately afterward, Prime Minister al-Wazzan made the following statement:

[Begin recording] As you see, successive meetings are being convened in view of the nature of the serious events which are surrounding us, including the events occurring on the southern border where the news about the Israeli enemy is increasingly worrisome.

This is in addition to the discussions that are being held on the domestic situation, including all the given facts and all their developments in the various areas. Furthermore, raising our cause at the UN Security Council was also discussed and scrutinized. A meeting was also held with our delegate to the United Nations, Ambassador Tuwayni.

Of course, no decisions have been made. However, there was an assessment as well as a followup of all the issues. The reason is that the circumstances are critical and a followup is a must.

[Question] Does this signify that, in light of the consultations being held with Ambassador Tuwayni, there is a possibility of asking the Security Council to convene a session on the south?

[Answer] This is contingent upon the developments of this issue, on the results of the contacts now underway with those concerned at the United Nations and on what is occurring here.

[Question] Your Excellency, Mr Prime Minister: There is another subject -- today's attack on a Lebanese Army convoy in Sidon. What is the latest information received about this incident and what is your comment?

[Answer] Inevitably, the information has reached you. This is a new, but recurring type of attack. It has greatly pained us. I say that it has personally caused me much pain. As a result, I have held some contacts during which I have mentioned this pain as well as denouncing such matters which are occurring, despite the fact the military forces were on their way to perform their usual tasks. It was impermissible to attack them, just as it is impermissible to repeat this attack. While we say this, I believe strict measures will be taken henceforth -- and let all sides assume their responsibilities.

[Question] Is it possible to disclose these measures?

[Answer] Let us leave it for circumstances to translate what should be translated into action.

[Question] Thanks for this statement. In regard to the Israeli military concentrations, have the diplomatic contacts which you have held revealed our full objective?

[Answer] Concerning these military concentrations, sometimes it is said they are a form of intimidation and are frightening, and sometimes it is said they constitute a preparation for overrunning [the south] or for perpetrating an aggression. It is always incumbent on us to perceive this matter from its worst perspectives and to act on this basis. [end recording]

VOL EXPLAINS CAUSE OF FIGHTING IN SIDON

NC160708 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] The situation in Sidon flared up at 0100 [2300 GMT] today between the Nasirite popular organization led by Mustafa Sa'd and Palestinian groups in the city. The clashes covered the areas of An-Najmah Square and Al-Bawwabah al-Fawqa. Heavy-caliber weapons and rockets were used in the clashes.

It has been reported the clashes broke out after armed alien men blew up the vehicle of a Nasirite popular organization official, Rafiq Bashasha, and then stormed his house and fired a rocket, killing him inside the house.

HASAN KHALID, DELEGATION RETURN FROM DAMASCUS

NC150712 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] A delegation representing his eminence the mufti of the Lebanese Republic, Ash-Shaykh Hasan Khalid, has returned to Tripoli from Damascus. The delegation, which was led by former Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, met in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in the presence of Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

SANA said President al-Asad assured the delegation Syria has been and will remain at Lebanon's side and will work for the sake of consolidating security and stability as well as for enabling the Lebanese citizens to lead a normal life.

Following its return to Tripoli last night, the delegation met with former Prime Minister Rashid Karami in the presence of the members of the supreme security committee and the higher coordination body in the north and briefed them on the results of the visit. Former Prime Minister al-Huss asserted that President al-Asad expressed his full readiness and that of the Syrian leadership to do everything possible to ensure the soundness of the national stand in Lebanon and to establish security in Tripoli and in all of Lebanon.

Delegation member Eng Malik Salam said the Syrian president requested the delegation's members to inform former Prime Minister Karami that all the deterrent forces in the north are at his disposal and under his command.

The delegation is scheduled to meet today with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Meet With 'Arafat

NC152028 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Within the context of the efforts which are being made concerning the problem of Tripoli, the delegation assigned by his eminence the mufti of the republic, Shaykh Hasan Khalid this afternoon met with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

It is known that [former Prime Minister] Dr Salim al-Huss heads the Dar al-Fatwa [House of Islamic Casuistry] delegation, which includes former Minister Eng Malik Salam; the director general of Dar al-Fatwa, Dr Husayn al-Quwwatli; and advisory secretary general former Ambassador Mahmud al-Hafiz.

Prior to the delegation's meeting [with 'Arafat], Dr Salim al-Huss visited Mufti Khalid in the latter's house in 'Aramun. They reviewed the results of the discussions which the delegation had in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam as well as the discussions which the delegation had in Tripoli with [former Prime Minister] Rashid Karami.

AL-ASAD RETURNS FROM LIBYA, ALGERIA 16 MAY

JN161855 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1838 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus from Algiers at 1830 following a 3-day working visit to the Libyan Jamahiriyah and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. During his visit he met with Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and held talks on the general Arab situation and means of confronting and foiling imperialist and Zionist plans to Arabize the Camp David accords.

The accompanying delegation, consisting of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, returned with the president.

Press Statement Issued

JN161931 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1838 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] A press statement was issued today on President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Algeria. The following is the text of the statement:

Within the periodic meetings, dialogue and consultations between the two political leaderships in Syria and Algeria, President Hafiz al-Asad paid a working visit to Algeria 15-16 May 1982. The delegation accompanying the president included 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

The two presidents reviewed new developments in the Arab homeland and the imperialist-Zionist onslaught aimed at besieging and liquidating the revolutionary, progressive and nationalist strongholds in the eastern and western parts of the Arab homeland, and also at liquidating the Palestinian cause through expanding the framework of the Camp David path by drawing other Arab states into it. In this regard, the two presidents have called on all Arab states to adhere to the Baghdad summit resolutions and to stop any attempt to restore relations with the Egyptian regime, because the causes and reasons for severing these relations still exist.

Reviewing the situation in the occupied Arab territories in light of the arbitrary measures and the Zionist-imperialist attempts to liquidate the Palestinian cause, the two presidents expressed their backing and support for the popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories as a sound means of liberation and of restoring the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and establishing their independent state.

The two presidents reviewed the affairs of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. In light of the contacts held among the front's partners, it was agreed to hold a meeting of the front's foreign ministers in Algiers before the end of this month.

TISHRIN Commentary

JN161044 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Damascus, 16 May (SANA) -- The talks that took place during the past 2 days between President Hafiz al-Asad and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, centered on an important and crucial issue. This issue is the effort currently being exerted in some Arab capitals to Arabize the Camp David accords and impose them by force under the pretext of Arab solidarity.

On the basis of information received, TISHRIN today said President al-Asad and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi discussed means of confronting this clear violation of Arab resolutions and Arab unanimity. This violation is occurring through the intensive efforts some reactionary Arab regimes are adopting to bring Egypt back into the Arab fold without abandoning the Camp David accords or the separate peace with Israel.

The paper says the Syrian and Libyan sides agreed that any Arab regime that rashly deviates from the Arab summit conference's resolutions, particularly Baghdad summit resolutions, and establishes relations of any kind with Cairo is contravening Arab law and should be treated accordingly.

TISHRIN has also learned that Syria and the Libyan Jamahiriyah have agreed to adopt decisive, effective and tangible measures and resolutions against any Arab country that resumes relations with the Egyptian regime. In this respect, the two sides view the resumption of relations between any Arab country and Egypt as an establishment of close relations with Israel. The two sides have also agreed on the broad lines in connection with all current Arab issues.

ROMANIA'S PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU TO VISIT IN MAY

JN151310 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Damascus, 15 May (SANA) -- Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu will pay an official, friendly visit to Syria during the second half of May at the invitation of President Hafiz al-Asad.

SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS 14 MAY

JN141330 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] The delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace headed by Aleksandr Trifonovich Kuz'min, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party or Belorussia and member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, arrived in Damascus this morning at the invitation of the National Council of the Peace Partisans in Syria. The friendly delegation was welcomed by several members of the Executive Bureau of the National Council of the Peace Partisans in Syria and several high-ranking officials from the Soviet Embassy in Damascus.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Kuz'min praised the relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR that were firmly founded by Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Leonid Brezhnev. He said: We highly appreciate the just struggle of the Syrian people under President Hafiz al-Asad against the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracies.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RECEIVES LEBANESE DELEGATION

JN141149 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] At 1030 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received a Lebanese delegation headed by former Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and comprising Malik Salam, Husayn al-Quwatli and Mahmud al-Hafiz. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting.

Discussions during the meeting dealt with the political and security situation in the Lebanese arena. The president told the delegation that Syria has been and will remain with Lebanon and will work for the sake of consolidating security and stability as well as enabling Lebanese citizens to lead normal lives. The president said Syria appreciates the national role of the members of the delegation and the efforts being exerted by all loyal Lebanese who are working for the sake of entrenching security in Lebanon.

CABINET REJECTS PLO INTERPRETATION OF CEASE-FIRE

TA161723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 May 82

["Evening Newsreel" report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on the 16 May Cabinet session -- recorded]

[Text] Israel did not abrogate the cease-fire agreement, but the terrorists did when they announced they were allowed to attack Jews from anywhere except southern Lebanon -- which they have done. This is what the prime minister said today in the debate of the situation along the northern border. The decision made by the ministers is basically political and carries no hint of giving the go-ahead to any sort of mode of action. However, the general agreement that is taking shape in the Cabinet is that the terrorists organizations should no longer be allowed to operate against Israel anywhere while their concentrations in Lebanon enjoy immunity under the cover of the cease-fire agreement.

It is not a question of opposition or coalition, government circles said this afternoon; the dispute inside the Cabinet and among the public is over the timing and the scope of the reaction and the bodies authorized to deal with these issues will hold consultations over this in the future. The prime minister said during the session that so far Israel has shown restraint because, as he put it, we are not interested in war.

Begin congratulated the chief of staff at the meeting for the way he had explained the security situation in interviews to the media 2 days ago. It was the chief of staff's duty because in the last few weeks some people who presented themselves as former commanders and reserve officers spoke up, inciting against us and supplying the enemy with information. The prime minister also accused a Knesset member, without giving his name, of having said at the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee session that the Cabinet is interested in war. This is a libel the like of which I cannot think of, the prime minister noted, when one says that the democratic government of the Jewish people wants to cause losses of life among our soldiers not in order to defend the people of Israel and to say it is seeking all sorts of pretexts for war.

Cabinet Communique

TA161950 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] [Begin Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridir videotape] The Cabinet held a discussion today on the situation in Lebanon and made the following decision:

1) The day before yesterday [14 May] the terrorist organizations issued an announcement that included the following sentence: Such threats in the future will not, as has happened in the past, have any influence on the continuation of the legal military activity of our fighters against the conquest in the conquered homeland and via the other Arab fronts.

2) This is the terrorist organizations' interpretation of the agreement to stop the hostile activities. According to their interpretation, they are permitted to attack the Jewish people and the State of Israel and they will carry out these attacks as they have done in the recent past, everywhere and in every sector, other than in southern Lebanon.

3) Israel will not, under any circumstances, accept this arbitrary and distorted interpretation of the terrorist organizations, who are directly threatening the lives of the citizens of Israel and the Jewish people -- men, women and children.

[Hayim Yavin] Here is our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram on the significance of this decision:

[Ram -- live in studio] Jerusalem evaluates the Cabinet decision as a political one, that is, a declaration of the policy to be taken by the government in view of the violations of the cease-fire agreement and in view of the unambiguous announcement by the terrorist organizations about their intention to violate the agreement in the future. Such a situation, Jerusalem thinks, cannot be tolerated by any government for any length of time. Israel cannot accept the fact that terrorists who train in Lebanon and are sent from Lebanon should be immune from attack. It is necessary for the entire world, including the critics in Israel, to understand that Israel is not looking for a pretext for action, but will work to stop this insufferable situation. The Cabinet will decide how it will work, when and with what scope.

According to Cabinet circles, by the very fact of the violation of the agreement, by the attacks and attempts to attack, as occurred in Jerusalem on 14 May, the terrorists are presenting Israel with a challenge and this is a situation that cannot be tolerated for any length of time. The criticism being made at home, the Cabinet thinks, saying there is a question of a tiny group of lunatics who want a war at any price, is a deliberate undermining of Israel's international status. The dilemma confronting Israel found its expression in remarks made by the prime minister at today's session. The truth is, Menahem Begin said, that we have behaved with restraint that is not typical of us. I want to say this specifically. The foreign minister, the defense minister and other colleagues who are sitting here do not come from a tradition of restraint. From our earliest youth we come from a school of thought that Jewish bloodshed should not be allowed, and this time we behaved with restraint because we do not want war.

GOVERNMENT, OPPOSITION DISCUSS SECURITY SITUATION

TA161918 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 May 82

[Party affairs correspondent Nisim Mish'al -- live in the studio]

[Text] There was a meeting this morning between Alignment leaders, the prime minister and Ministers Shamir and Sharon, from which one conclusion can be drawn: Israel will continue to show restraint in everything connected with its activity on the northern border, provided that the terrorists do not continue to violate the cease-fire agreement. In other words, from Israel's viewpoint, we can expect calm on the northern border if the terrorists cease their activity. During the talk, which was decided upon yesterday after the Sabbath had ended, the prime minister stressed the need and importance in obtaining understanding between Israel and the United States in the political and strategic spheres. In this context, Mr Begin spoke about Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's upcoming visit to the United States.

Following this, it is assessed that until after Sharon's return from the United States and also until after the prime minister's visit to the UN General Assembly in New York, Israel will opt not to use the military option on the northern border. Nevertheless -- and we must repeat the emphasis on this -- this is provided that the terrorists do not violate the cease-fire agreement. It was again stressed in Jerusalem this evening that Israel is prepared for any actions by the terrorists on the northern border, with all this involves. At the end of the talk, the prime minister promised Alignment leaders that he will reconvene this forum if there are new developments on the northern border.

RABIN REJECTS MILITARY SOLUTION TO LEBANON PROBLEM

TA141152 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 May 82 p 2

[Text] "I believe none of the Israeli objectives in Lebanon can be obtained by a military operation," MK Yitzhaq Rabin said last night in reply to questions presented by YEDI'OT AHARONOT.

Concerning the latest developments in the security field MK Yitzhaq Rabin also said: "The immediate security problem, although not the central one, Israel faces these days is how to handle the terrorist operations from Lebanon. This problem is closely linked to Lebanon's domestic problems as well as with the Syrian involvement there. In taking action against the terrorists, Israel must also take into account these two additional problems."

"The cease-fire achieved in July 1981 now has three different, contradictory interpretations: Israeli, American and PLO. One should lament the fact that things were not properly clarified and concluded at the time in order to forestall this. At the same time, Israel cannot accept the U.S. or PLO interpretations of the agreement because if it does, terrorist actions will be carried out against targets in Israel, in the occupied territories and all over the world."

"The central question now facing Israel in view of the overall problems in Lebanon is whether it can, through military measures, obtain even one of the following three goals: the military extermination of the terrorist organizations in Lebanon; aid to the Christians who are fighting to gain control over most of Lebanon; and the expulsion of the Syrian Army from Lebanon. To the best of my knowledge and understanding, none of these three objections can be achieved by a military operation because of political constraints dictated by the United States and the Soviet Union."

"Since this is my basic premise, it follows, in my opinion, that Israel should strive toward maintaining the cease-fire in the north as long as the terrorist organizations observe it. If the terrorists persist in carrying out terrorist activity, action should be taken against them that would prevent, as much as possible, an escalation of hostilities -- and first and foremost a prevention of a war of attrition against the northern settlements. Thus, for instance, it follows that there is no room for reacting to each case of mining by the terrorists with a massive air attack. This is not necessary, and there are other ways to react."

"Should the terrorists launch a war of attrition against the northern settlements on their own initiative despite Israel's efforts to limit the scope of the military action -- as had been the case in July 1981 -- there will be no choice but a massive Israeli retaliation. In such a case, the IDF will have to enter Lebanon to remove the terrorists from the areas from which they can shell the northern settlements with artillery and Katyushas."

"Such a wide-scale operation," Rabin concludes, "will have far-reaching consequences, militarily and politically. Such an operation can similarly result in broadening the belligerence to include Syria as well. So Israel should take action against the terrorists both demonstratively and in selective offensives."

CHIEF OF STAFF EYTAN COMMENTS ON KATYUSHA FIRINGS

TA141935 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 14 May 82

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan by correspondent on defense affairs Ron Ben-Yishay on 14 May -- place not given -- videotaped]

[Text] [Question] Sir, it seems the Israeli public and even senior IDF officers are entangled in a debate as to whether we should exhaust all political moves until the terrorists escalate the situation and then strike at them with all our might or whether we should act in accordance with the Biblical rule: If anyone sets out to kill you, kill him first. What is your position?

[Answer] It is not a matter of my personal position. We are engaged in a war that has not been declared as such but a war to the bitter end against the Jewish people in Eretz Yisra'el.

If we were not here, there would be no war, explosive charges or shells. I do not have a philosophical dilemma, namely whether or not we are engaged in a state of war; whether the blows we are being dealt are enough, too much or not at all -- I do not have such a dilemma.

[Question] Their activities, compared to what have experienced in the past, are not serious. Are we ourselves not creating an escalation by striking back out of proportion in retaliation for a small incident?

[Answer] What should the proportions be, the number of casualties or their capability? Do we have to operate according to the terrorists' dimensions? What they do is what they are capable of doing. If they could do more, they would. If they could infiltrate 100 squads from Jordan, they would. They cannot do that, thus they do not. Recently, they have tried to fire Katyushas at Haon, Ashdot Ya'aqov and Ma'oz Hayim; four or five times they tried to shell Elat. If they could attempt more they would.

[Question] What happened in those attempts?

[Answer] Some of the Katyusha launchers were discovered and dismantled. On three occasions, Katyushas were fired but missed the target. They fired at Haon and the shells fell into the sea; they fired at Ashdot Ya'aqov and the shells fell into the fields; they fired at Ma'oz Hayim and they hit somewhere between Ma'oz Hayim and Bet Yosef. Proportions are a matter of capability -- what they can do. Should we play by their rules of the game? Why should we? We are a state that reasonably so, does not like it when Katyushas are fired at its children. What is so strange about that? Our reactions are not acceptable to the entire world, but this is how we act. Our reaction is in proportion to our capability rather than to that of the terrorists.

[Question] If you knew for certain the Syrians would actively intervene in a clash between us and the terrorists, would you still subscribe to your current position of taking the initiative in striking against the terrorists?

[Answer] To date, in most instances when we acted against the terrorists in Lebanon [break in transmission] in advance, that they would want or would have the motivation to do so. Our problem with the terrorists is: Whoever stands in our way with the terrorists, we will know how to deal with him.

[Question] Are we capable of breaking the terrorists' military strength in Lebanon for an extended period of time?

[Answer] The answer is yes, we are capable of doing it. However, military strength in itself is not a factor of success, there are other factors involved.

[Question] Could you elaborate on these factors?

[Answer] These are mainly political factors.

[Question] In the past, whenever we set out to war there was usually a consensus among the people on this. Today it seems that such a consensus does not exist. In your capacity as commander of the army, do you feel comfortable with such a situation?

[Answer] First of all, we are not setting out to war. Who said we are setting out to war? Has anyone held a referendum about the reasons which would be favored or objected to in case of an operation? Who decided such a thing? Who asked the public's opinion? A consensus evolves once things are checked, understood and conclusions are reached. Does this consensus include all the inhabitants along the northern border, all the inhabitants of Qiryat Shemona and Nahariyya? If the consensus includes them, let them come to conclusions about what they feel and sense, about their requests from the sovereign state to which they belong, what they are asking the state to do for them.

[Question] Did you find such a consensus in the northern settlements?

[Answer] Certainly.

[Question] Have the Syrians changed their deployment on the Golan Heights and in Lebanon in the last few days? Have you detected any signs of a state of alert?

[Answer] No.

[Question] It has been reported in the press that the Soviets intend to aid the Syrians to man antiaircraft batteries and in other areas. Are you not apprehensive about Soviet involvement if we launched an operation?

[Answer] I am not sure what is written in the press is credible, from the intelligence point of view. However, Soviets were involved in the war in attrition with Egypt, both through the manning of antiaircraft batteries and through the flying of fighter planes. Our air force had a clash with Soviet pilots. I think we should contemplate such a possibility when we think in terms of doing or not doing something.

[Question] Thank you very much, sir.

UNIFIL SPOKESMAN SAYS CEASE-FIRE MAINTAINED

TA171019 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] A UNIFIL spokesman says the cease-fire in southern Lebanon is being maintained and UNIFIL continues to carry out its regular tasks. The UNIFIL spokesman said this in reaction to recent declarations about the cease-fire in southern Lebanon. This is reported by our correspondent Hayim Hecht.

BOMBING INCIDENTS REPORTED IN JERUSALEM, W. BANK

Bet Guvrin

TA141316 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] An explosive charge went off at a soldiers' pickup stop in Bet Guvrin yesterday morning. Nobody was hurt but the stop was completely destroyed. This has only been released for publication today. Our correspondent Arye Gus comments that from an examination made by the security forces, the remains of a clock used in the explosive device were discovered. Soldiers have been told to be on the alert for suspicious objects in pickup places and public places.

Jerusalem

TA141232 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] A bomb has been discovered and safely dismantled in Jerusalem, in Bet Yo'el, on Yafo street. The charge, weighing 1.5 kg, was placed in a public telephone booth near the building. Police sappers exploded the charge by using a remote control device. Our correspondent Moti 'Eden reports police are now combing the area.

Jericho

TA170952 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] A bomb exploded today near a military camp in Jericho. There were no casualties and no damage was caused. Two molotov cocktails were thrown at a military vehicle in the village of Al-'Ayzariyah near Jerusalem. No casualties were reported. The IDF closed off a section of the village's main road.

TEXT OF CHIEF OF STAFF EYTAN'S REMARKS ON LEBANON

TA140924 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 May 82 pp 1, 18

[Report on interview with Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat on 13 May in Eytan's office]

[Text] The publicity about the IDF's high state of alert in the north, the terrorists' activity, the Katyusha firing, the air force strikes, have left no external marks on the face of the chief of the general staff, Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan. Yesterday morning Eytan was completely relaxed, calm and alert, and there was no unusual activity in his office. His agenda was normal and routine, as it is on many other days. During his fifth year in office as chief of staff, none of his views have changed, nor has his lifestyle or behavior. Yesterday's talk with the chief of staff was attended by No'ah Moses, the editor responsible for YEDI'OT AHARONOT, and editorial board members Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat and Eytan Haber.

[Question] For about 4 months now we have witnessed an unprecedented phenomenon: While the IDF is preparing for possible developments in the north, there is no consensus on this among the public, the Knesset and the Cabinet, nor even among circles and personalities who have in the past held senior posts in the army and security forces. How do you, as chief of staff, regard this phenomenon?

[Answer] You are discussing completely different things in the same breath, things that are different factually and substantively. There was no consensus on the eve of the 6-day war, either -- neither in the army nor in the government -- and the nation neither understood nor knew anything about what was going on.

In the Yom Kippur war it was the same thing: a deterrent action or no deterrent action, recruit in advance or not? So much for facts, in reply to your comment that this is an unprecedented phenomenon. There are many precedents. Now, substantively, it is not a question of war or of planning a war. It is a question of a sovereign state whose right and duty it is to defend the lives of its inhabitants.

I ask you: Are the British allowed to go to war in order to reconquer the Falklands while we are told to sit quietly when our settlements are being shelled? Must we accept this, that the shedding of the Bet She'an inhabitants' blood is allowable? Do you want to tell me that there is no consensus in the nation about this?

I repeat: It is not a question of war. It is a question of peace for the northern border settlements and peace for the children of Bat Yam, where a bomb went off causing damage, only by chance killing no children. Do we have to accept all that? Must we not do something so that people will say: It is worth living in Eretz Yisra'el, it is safer here than in France or America, this is our country, and this includes the fact that there will be no bombs in Ashqelon and no mines in Metulla? This is the question, not war.

[Question] But there have been such cases of terrorism -- in fact, ever since the establishment of the state -- but our reaction generally took other forms, not always such massive aerial bombing as occurred a week ago!

[Answer] A country that has built a security system for itself does not need to use rules of the game used by guerrillas, terrorists or terrorist organizations. A country must bring the dilemma of the other side to the highest brink. I will explain what I mean. They plant a mine and kill one of our people. A few days later, they plant another mine and by chance it is discovered and 10 soldiers are not killed.

So what shall we do, shall we plant mines for them, too? Perhaps it is not they who will run over the mine, but UNIFIL troops, or a cart with women and children. Do you think they care? They do not care at all. On the contrary.

On television I do not see the precise Katyusha hits, but I do see all the women and children who ran over mines -- including those who ran over one last year -- and only they gain by that. But since I have built up an excellent system at a cost of billions of dollars, I can and must use it; and I am making them pay the highest price, one they cannot risk going beyond. It is only thus that I defeat them and leave them without a way out. They plant a mine, but they do not know what I will do. It could be that I will be in Beirut tomorrow; it could be that all their artillery will be hit; it could be that all their command headquarters will be destroyed, so they will think a million times, not once, about whether to plant the next mine.

In our last attack 1 month ago, after the mine that killed Eyal Tzur, 32 terrorists were killed -- that is the price, not to mention an enormous quantity of equipment and bunkers and stores and command headquarters and a training base. They only know that now the price could be even higher, because I have concentrated forces in the north. Today it is already clear to them: There are no rules of the game, at any rate their rules are not our rules. This is how I interpret the proportions: They are not relative to their strength, but to our ability.

A very important defense minister visited me some time ago and he said to me: We expect conduct from you on the level of Europe! I told him: That is exactly what we are doing, as in Europe. People tread on our feet, we bow our heads. That is how the Europeans have always behaved. He listened and blushed a little. And, really, how are the British behaving?

[Question] But the United States follows rules of the game with the Soviet Union, is that not so?

[Answer] That is something quite different.

[Question] We also do not live in a vacuum.

[Answer] I want to tell you that even when the United States plays according to the rules of its game, it does not always work out well. Look at the Iran hostage affair, look at Vietnam. In Vietnam, when they played according to the guerrillas' rules, it was the United States, with its enormous power, that lost. The moral is: You have to play according to the other side's rules of the game. The rules of the game, to illustrate, mean that if I have a big racquet and the other side has a small one, I do not have to exchange my big racquet for a small one. On the contrary.

[Question] But in the not-too-distant past, only a year ago, you were a great believer in limited, continuous actions. Why the change in the situation?

[Answer] It is true, that is what we did then, but the terrorists were saved by the cease-fire. You should know they were on their knees a year ago, but that did not destroy them and they needed a year to reorganize. The difference lies in the fact that the situation today is not similar, quantitatively, to that of a year ago.

A year ago they had 130-mm artillery pieces. One cannon fired at Nahariyya, and when we hit that cannon, the shooting at Nahariyya ended. Today they have about 500 artillery pieces -- 80 of which are 130-mm caliber -- nearly 100 Katyusha launchers, about 100 T-34 and T-35 tanks, very large quantities of antiaircraft weapons and another large quantity of small pieces. They also have radar, including antiaircraft radar. Their manpower potential is very great, because every 17-year-old boy in a refugee camp is part of that potential. From the organizational aspect, with command headquarters and units, they number 10,000 to 15,000 people scattered from Beirut southward.

[Question] Are there also Syrian soldiers manning Fatah positions?

[Answer] No. Weapons from Syria -- yes; but soldiers -- I do not know.

[Question] In Qiryat Shemona this week, did their shelling simply miss the target or did they decide not to hit it to avoid an escalation?

[Answer] They missed, but not because they wanted to.

[Question] Are you sure about this?

[Answer] One hundred percent sure. They meant to hit it and they are also saying they did hit it. Their targets were and still are the settlements, and we must defend them. It makes no difference if it is a question of 100 Katyushas or 1 85 mortar shell. What difference does it make? It makes no difference at all for anyone living in Qiryat Shemona.

[Question] In the event of an action by us, could Syria be dragged into war?

[Answer] Possibly yes, possibly no. We must decide or not decide on moves after examining whether there is an alternative or not. If there is an alternative -- that is, an alternative with which we will gain our objective without fighting the terrorists -- then we will examine it. But, in my opinion -- there is not! There is not, because the terrorists are fighting us all over the world. So there is no alternative but to fight them, although I am not saying that terrorism will thus stop completely. We are dealing with Arabs who do not want us here, not because of the administration and not because of identification cards in the Golan Heights. There was no matter of identification cards in 1936 and there was no civil administration in 1929 or in 1939 or in 1921. This is not the reason. The reason is that there is a fight here, and in that fight we have overcome so far, and we will continue to overcome in the future.

[Question] Are you saying by this that, in fact, that is the heart of the problem?

[Answer] Yes, of course. We are speaking about coexistence, they mean nonexistence. [hadqiyum] This is, existence without us.

[Question] What are the Syrians aiming at in connection with what is happening in southern Lebanon?

[Answer] They have many problems, both internal and external, and the main thing for them is to disturb Israel all the time. Therefore they are giving the terrorists weapons and training them, because it is clearly in their interest to fight us through them until they have a direct opportunity. But it is reasonable to assume that if the Syrians understand this could cost them dearly, then their motivation to turn this into an all-out conflict will be low. They have tried to interfere with us in the air for almost 3 years. They have interfered with out aerial activity and, as a result of that, their planes were downed. Now they are already interfering less! It seems they have learned their lesson. In our last attack they did not even dare to come close to the Lebanese border. Why am I pointing this out? Because they also have been deterred not only in the air, but also on the sea and land. The Syrians will not beat their heads on a wall, like lunatics.

[Question] Do the Syrians know what Israel could do to them? And what about the Soviets, in that event?

[Answer] They might now. As for the Soviets, they do not want to commit themselves. In fact, the Syrians are isolated. The Soviet Union is a world power that has a certain responsibility. It does not want to get into complications because of us. Apparently the Syrians are not confident the Soviets will go along with them. Therefore the situation is delicate, but also insufferable: that is, the terrorists will continue to fire at our settlements whenever they want.

[Question] There are circles in Israel, friends of the defense minister, who are saying Arik Sharon wants a war at any price. He wants to conquer Lebanon and he has himself a terrific chief of staff to do this.

[Answer] A chief of staff who can do this? That is true! The defense minister? I know he wants no more shellings of Qiryat Shemona, just like everyone else. But not everyone living in Tel Aviv feels what the person who is responsible for this feels, the person to whom people come every day with complaints.

[Question] Do the inhabitants of the north and Qiryat Shemona want a large-scale IDF action?

[Answer] I have met with all the representatives of the north. They say: "We are fed up."

[Question] Did they tell you so this week, at their meeting, that they want a large-scale action?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] Other than the head of the Metulla council, who wants a karge-scale military action?

[Answer] We did not speak about an action. They want no Katyushas to fall on them. They told us: You are soldiers, act as you see fit! But we know it is impossible to do this through an aerial attack and we also know it is impossible to know when they fire Katyushas. If a truck carrying Katyushas sets out now and stands on some hill in southern Lebanon and fires its barrage in 12 seconds and after 30 seconds it is no longer there, what can we do?

[Question] On that occasion, should a new order be set up in Lebanon?

[Answer] I am not speaking of a new order in Lebanon. Lebanon belongs to the Lebanese! Let them keep order there. We have a problem with the terrorists. Today Lebanon is the center of active war against Israel. It is also the political center of the terrorists, of the PLO, of the Palestinian state they want to establish. The command headquarters, the training camps, the bases, the arms and the ammunition are there: not only against us, but against the entire world. But neither am I saying that if the terrorists disappear from Lebanon, they will not appear somewhere else. I am not saying that.

[Question] Is is true to say the Palestinian problem cannot be solved with a military action, it must be settled politically?

[Answer] I think the problem of terrorism from Lebanese territory can be solved by a military action. I am not saying there is going to be a military action. Why do I think this? Because, in contrast to other places, in Lebanon there is a different situation from that, for example, in Jordan in the 1970's. How is it different? In Lebanon there is a public and a leadership which are antiterrorist.

[Question] This was also in Jordan and Husayn killed more terrorists than Raful....

[Answer] I am not competing with Husayn in anything, not even in killing terrorists. Today Lebanon is under the terrorists' rule. President Sarkis does not rule. If the terrorists are to be weakened, this can only happen with a military action, not by any political action. On the contrary, from the political viewpoint they are becoming stronger. The military strengthening is giving them better political status, mainly with regard to the Arab countries. If they are weakened, then the balance of forces inside Lebanon will change. This is a chance that could also come from a military action. It cannot occur as a result of any other move.

[Question] Can the terrorists collapse, militarily?

[Answer] The terrorists collapsed last year, they asked for a cease-fire, saying: If there is no cease-fire at once, we will collapse; the Palestinian revolution is collapsing. They appealed to Saudi Arabia and the Saudis ran to the Americans. The request for a cease-fire was worded like this: "If firing does not cease within 48 hours -- the Palestinian revolution will collapse."

[Question] So why did we not continue to attack them for another 48 hours?

[Answer] I do not criticize the Cabinet's actions. This has happened to Arabs throughout our history: Whenever they faced collapse, someone came to their rescue. That happened in the war of liberation, that happened in 1956, in the Golan Heights, in other places.

[Question] Excuse me, Mr Chief of Staff. The situation was also insufferable on our side. It is, perhaps, worth our remembering that. You have forgotten that people fled from the north...

[Answer] Do you know what? The situation was much more bearable when attack squads were infiltrating.

[Question] During this period Qiryat Shemona was not evacuated.

[Answer] And how it emptied! And how!

[Question] Is it true there has also been criticism inside the army?

[Answer] It is not true! I meet with the officers, commanders and men. It is not true! But alertness is the task of the standing army. And I am grateful -- I do not know to whom -- that we have such a large standing army, that we do not need to call up the reserves as in the 6-day war.

[Question] The activity in the north is being accompanied by much publicity. Are you sensitive about the many military leaks about our deployment over the last few months?

[Answer] With today's technology you can be told if you have more or less hairs on your bald patch. From an altitude of 500 km what type of car you have can be seen. I am not exaggerating. Today there are no secrets, but they are leaking less than the army. [sentenced as published] Recently I sat down with a guest from abroad and we spoke about the Falklands. I asked him: How is it possible to discern whether a Soviet submarine or an Argentinian submarine is there deep in the sea? He laughed. It is possible to know. Everything in the world is known.

[Question] In the case under discussion, the publicity could damage us...

[Answer] That is not the problem! It is not that we concentrated forces and nobody knew, and then suddenly -- boom! We concentrate forces, so what? True! A state of alert, high alert, correct! Now we are sitting and waiting. Two weeks, and suddenly. [sentence as published] If I cannot conceal the forces, then I will use other methods. We have not concealed that the standing army is in a state of algert. Why? We need to defend ourselves.

[Question] How do you react to writers criticizing you, the IDF, and possible action?

[Answer] I once told you -- and I caught it for that, but I am not retracting it -- do not do the enemy a favor.

[Question] Where is the borderline in terms of criticism?

[Answer] I do not know. I am in favor of criticism. I think that during my time as chief of staff, the criticism has gained more response than ever before. But I turn into a relay, an antenna, when my path leads to that one...

[Question] What is that one?

[Answer] That one? Internal politics so that is irrelevant; I heard that they said: "Because of the fact that the army is educating marginal youth, they lost in the elections," and I caught it in a newspaper article that asked why I was going to bring deserters from Or 'Aqiva back to the IDF. For that I caught a whole article. Is that criticism? That is not criticism! I am an antenna! They screw me because the political echelons will react. Where is the borderline? It is a man's commonsense, not interests, that tells me where the borderline is.

[Question] We would like to return to the matter with which we began and with which we will, perhaps, also end. In all the wars to date the public had the feeling of "no alternative," that a sharp sword was hanging over its neck. Is this the situation at present?

[Answer] Yes! By the very fact of your question you have decided that we are going to war -- and I have not said that. Now you are saying that we went to war when a sword was hanging over our necks. What sword hung over our neck in 1956? What sword hung in 1967? Egyptian divisions in the Sinai? Is that a sword? It could be that if we had not fired in 1967 a war would not have started.

[Question] There were Egyptian divisions in the Sinai and they closed the Straits of Tiran.

[Answer] All right. Once we said if Iraqis entered Jordan it would be a reason for war -- but we did not go to war. I want to say: We are living under a constant threat. People in Tel Aviv do not feel this, but in Rosh Haniqrah they do feel it. And there is an entire border that feels it. Another thing is the very fact of this war against the State of Israel. What differences does it make if it is a 20 kg Katyusha or a 5 kg bomb that explodes on a bus in Jerusalem? What difference does it make to the country. Why should one citizen live peacefully and another one not?

[Question] Why did you not open a large-scale action in Lebanon when they placed 5 kg in a bus in Netanya 1 and 1/2 or 2 years ago?

[Answer] Because time changes things. Not always does it happen that what was once possible is possible now, and the other way round. Why was the 1967 war not waged in 1956? There were also fedayeen in Judaea and Samaria, why? You can ask many questions as to why?

[Question] We are saying that in fact the cease-fire has been canceled. The terrorists say the cease-fire is continuing. What is the genuine situation?

[Answer] It is a fact that there is no cease-fire. What the terrorists say is for political purposes. They say: There is a cease-fire. You will not shoot at us in Lebanon, but we will blow you up in Jerusalem. As they see it, that is an honored cease-fire.

[Question] And as you see it?

[Answer] I do not accept it. Why should I accept it? Why should a little girl wounded in Jerusalem accept it?

DEFENSE MINISTRY DENIES INTENT TO FIRE MILSON

TA141116 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 May 82 p 14

[Report by Dani Rubinstein]

[Excerpt] In reply to a question, the Defense Ministry spokesman said last night that he does not know of any intention to replace Prof Menahem Milson as the head of the West Bank civilian administration and appoint another administration member instead.

SECURITY FORCES CLOSE THREE WEST BANK SCHOOLS

TA141211 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 May 82 p 2

[Report by Tzvi Bar'el]

[Excerpt] The security forces last night closed three schools around Ramallah: the vocational training center in Qalandiyah, the teachers seminar in Ramallah and the teachers seminar in the village of At-Tirah near Ramallah. They were closed until 22 May by order of the military governor following events, in which students have recently participated, involving demonstrations and the hoisting of Palestinian flags. The three institutions are run by UNRWA. The Kadri Taqan and Ma'zuz al-Masri schools in Nabulus were closed until the end of the year. There was some unrest in the West Bank last night: In the Al-'Amarah refugee camp near Al-Birah youths threw stones at IDF cars, and in Az-Zahiriyah students flew the Palestinian flag. The security forces dispersed the youngsters and lowered the flag.

NABULUS BOY WOUNDED BY IDF DURING DEMONSTRATION

TA151949 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1930 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Nabulus, 15 May -- A boy, a Nabulus resident, was injured Saturday when IDF soldiers fired on demonstrators in the old city of Nabulus. The boy was rushed to the Rafidiyah hospital where it was reported he was suffering slight wounds. The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria reports the soldiers, who were patroling the alleys of the old city of Nabulus, were attacked with stones and clubs. They shot into the air but the rioting continued. When their lives were endangered they shot at the demonstrators' legs, driving them away. Only later was it realized that a boy had been wounded. He was rushed to a hospital by his friends. Disturbances occurred today also in the Balatah refugee camp, and the security forces had to impose a curfew there. Three Israeli vehicles were damaged on Samaria roads today as a result of stoning incidents, but no casualties were reported.

MINOR DISTURBANCES REPORTED IN JANIN AREA

TA160730 Jerusalem POST in English 16 May 82 p 1

[Excerpts] A 15 year old youth was wounded by soldiers in Nabulus yesterday, security forces have confirmed. Minor disturbances were also reported in Janin, leading to the closure of public and civic institutions in several towns, particularly in the north of the West Bank. Large numbers of troops were on hand in the event of trouble.

The West Bank civil administration has initiated contacts with a number of local personalities with a view to appointing them to replace local mayors and Israeli civil servants appointed in place of the deposed mayors of Nabulus, Ramallah and Al-Birah. Those approached include a judge in Janin and a Ramallah politician. Judge Zuhayr Bustani of Nabulus, who was also approached, has already indicated that he would not accept any position in the municipality.

ITALY'S COLOMBO COMMENTS ON EGYPT, PALESTINIANS

TA141231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 14 May 82

[Excerpt] At a news conference to conclude his visit to Israel, visiting Minister Emilio Colombo said in Italy's opinion, the guaranteeing of Israel's safety was an important basis of the peace process in our area. He also stressed any rapprochement between Egypt and the Arab countries must not come at Israel's expense. However, in his opinion, Israel must work to solve the Palestinian problem. Its agreement and that of Egypt to the autonomy plan is not sufficient. Although Israel has made many concessions in that plan, it must receive the agreement of the inhabitants involved and that of the organizations that represent them. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh points out Colombo did not mention the PLO by name. He criticized the dismissal of the mayors from Judaea and Samaria, saying such actions did not help to create an atmosphere of trust.

Details of News Conference

TA141455 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1415 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Jerusalem, 14 May -- A joint Italian-Israeli committee will be set up as a result of the talks held by Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo in Jerusalem. Mr Colombo announced this at a news conference held in Jerusalem today at the end of his visit to Israel. The visit lasted 2 days and in the course of it the guest met with the president of the state, with the prime minister and other officials.

The minister explained the joint committee will convene every year and will discuss ways and means to promote bilateral relations and common affairs in the spheres of economy, trade, research and technology. Another decision in principle was made on building an Italian school in Jerusalem. It was agreed between the two countries this project will be a link in the chain of cultural ties between Israel and Italy and the Israeli Government will recognize the curriculum of the Italian school while the Italian Government will help set it up.

Mr Colombo said maintaining the full security of Israel is a primary condition for any peace settlement and that without this no moves or actions aimed at achieving peace in the region will be of any avail. Summing up the 2 days of his official visit to Jerusalem the guest said his talks were held in a useful and positive atmosphere. The Italian foreign minister expressed Italy's readiness to contribute toward ending the Israeli-Arab conflict. He emphasized that following the Sinai evacuation, for which Israel made praiseworthy sacrifices and efforts, a new era has been opened in the region and this necessitates additional moves to promote a solution of the conflict.

Mr Colombo believes Jordan and Saudi Arabia should join the peace efforts and help create an atmosphere of mutual trust among the parties to the conflict. As for the autonomy in the occupied territories the visiting minister expressed his opinion that in order to implement it one should first reach an agreement with the inhabitants of these territories since without their consent it will be impossible to extend this plan to the territories and therefore "the signatures of the United States, Israel and Egypt on the autonomy document are not enough."

Mr Colombo further stated that the situation in Lebanon and the effect of the Iran-Iraq war on the entire Middle East region were also discussed.

Interviewed by POST

TA160811 Jerusalem POST in English 16 May 82 p 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondents David Landau and Benny Morris]

[Excerpts] Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo has called on Israel "as friends who believe in the principle of democracy," to accept that "the principle of choosing their own destiny must be applied to everyone." In written answers to questions from the Jerusalem POST, Colombo added: "The other side of the problem is...the acceptance by the Arab world of the existence and security of Israel as fundamental elements in a comprehensive peace." He said Italy wished success to the autonomy negotiations "but we do not neglect, also on the basis of elements gathered in the Arab countries, that the negotiation framework in which the discussions are held at the moment do not yet receive the consensus sufficient for a true alternative of peace."

The Italian statesman flew home on Friday after an official visit to Israel. On his way, by Italian Air Force jet, he touched down at Sharm ash-Shaykh to visit the Italian naval unit attached to the multinational force, which is policing the Straits of Tiran.

Asked by the POST for his impressions on Lebanon, Colombo replied: "Of course, the very delicate equilibrium of Lebanon is fundamental at the moment, and nobody must for any reason upset it. It seems to me that the Israeli Government, although it has its own interpretation of the terms of the Lebanese truce, is aware of this problem.

Asked whether Italy sees Al-Qadhdhafi's Libya as a threat to peace in the Mediterranean, Colombo replied: "We have complex relations with Libya, undergoing difficult moments at times. The Libyans say they want to maintain relations with Europe and also with the United States. It is of no use to anyone to interrupt this dialogue; the results could be comparable to those of An-Nasir's Egypt. I think that with such an approach these dangers...can be avoided."

Begin took the opportunity of Colombo's visit to discuss the career of one of his historical heroes, 19th century Italian military leader Giuseppe Garibaldi.

Departs 14 May

TA141459 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1440 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 14 May -- Italian Foreign Minister Dr Emilio Colombo this afternoon ended a 2-day official visit to Israel and left for Sharm ash-Shaykh to visit the Italian contingent of the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers. He will later return to Rome. Before leaving Israel he met for about 30 minutes in Ben-Gurion Airport with the asmbassadors of the EC countries accredited to Israel. The Italian foreign minister then went to his plane, an Italian Air Force DC-9. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir escorted the guest to the plane where the two ministers had a most friendly farewell.

After the Italian foreign minister and his entourage had departed, Minister Shamir told the ITIM correspondent in the airport: "We are friends. We met on many occasions when I served as the Knesset speaker and Colombo as the European Parliament's chairman. We were appointed foreign minister of our countries at almost the same time."

In answer to a question Mr Shamir said the visit was successful and friendly. Detailed, comprehensive and sincere discussions were held on all regional issues as well as on the international situation. "We found understanding and many points of agreement on a variety of subjects. There were differences of opinion as well but all this was in the framework of general friendship and out of concern for Israel's security," Mr Shamir said.

On the meeting between the Italian foreign minister and the EEC ambassadors at Ben-Gurion Airport it was reported that it is customary for any EEC foreign minister to meet with the other EEC ambassadors during a visit to Israel.

BEGIN APPEALS TO AFRICA TO RENEW DIPLOMATIC TIES

NC151732 Paris AFP in English 1545 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Paris, 15 May (AFP) -- Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin appealed to African countries to renew their diplomatic ties with Israel in an interview to be published here on Monday. Mr Begin, who was speaking before last night's announcement that Zaire was to re-establish diplomatic links cut in 1973, said that the action of a score of African states at that time to break off relations with Israel "through solidarity with Egypt" had now no reason to continue.

"Egypt itself has diplomatic relations with Israel and we expect African states not to be more Egyptian than the Egyptians," Mr Begin told the monthly AFRIQUE A LA UNE (FRONT PAGE AFRICA), which publishes its first issue next week. "We are ready to renew the exceptional cooperation which existed between Israel and African countries," Mr Begin added. "Israel can contribute to their development in the fields of agriculture, medicine, cooperation and industry," he added. Asked about Israel's relations with South Africa, Mr Begin reasserted "Israel's total opposition to apartheid and all forms of racism."

ZAIRE ANNOUNCES RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

TA150551 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] A special envoy of the Zairian president is due in Israel today to inform the prime minister about his government's decision to resume diplomatic relations with Israel. This has been learned by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. Last night Zaire announced its decision to resume relations with Israel. It was the first African country to sever relations with Israel in 1973. The official announcement was made in the Zairian capital of Kinshasa, at a congress of the ruling party headed by President Mobuto Sese Seko. Mobuto had announced the decision to sever relations from the UN podium. Western sources say the resumption of relations constitutes an important breakthrough for Israel in Africa.

Political sources in Jerusalem have expressed their assessment that Zaire will be followed by other African countries. Recently, these countries announced that after the evacuation of the Sinai is completed they would resume relations with Israel. Our political correspondent notes the announcement about the resumption of relations was preceded by an exchange of messages in the last four days between President Mobuto and the prime minister and defense minister.

Our correspondent points out that about 6 months ago Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon visited several African countries and during his stay in Zaire he signed an agreement on joint cooperation. At that time, the defense minister emphasized to the African countries the importance Israel attaches to the resumption of diplomatic relations. He said economic ties should be coupled with political achievements.

Further Details

TA150731 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 15 May 82

[Excerpt] The announcement by the Zairian Government about the resumption of relations with Israel was preceded by an exchange of messages between President Mobutu and the prime minister and the defense minister and it was coordinated with the Foreign Ministry.

Our political correspondent points out the director general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, paid numerous visits to the capitals of various African countries in order to strengthen relations with them. During the UN General Assembly session about 1 year ago, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir conferred with six African foreign ministers, including the Zairian foreign minister.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports Israeli representations currently operate in several African countries under the aegis of other states. An Israeli diplomat has for some months been stationed in a foreign embassy in Kinshasa and has handled relations between Israel and Zaire.

The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, Avi Pazner, welcomed the Zairian decision and noted this was an important development in Israel's relations with Africa. He emphasized Israel calls on other countries on the African Continent to also resume relations of friendship and cooperation with Israel.

Our correspondent has learned the Zairian president is now trying to persuade some of his colleagues to follow in his footsteps. The French Government and President Mitterrand are also trying to persuade African countries which had in the past been under French rule to resume relations with Israel. Two days ago Zaire announced it no longer wanted economic aid from the United States. Washington had offered $64 million in economic and military aid. However, during a Congressional hearing testimony was presented about corruption in the Zairian administration along with hints the president had used U.S. aid funds for his own benefit.

Israeli sources in Washington told the UPI correspondent Israel would not extend economic aid to Zaire but it would be ready to send volunteers along the lines of the U.S. peace corps. About 6 months ago, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon signed an agreement on cooperation in Zaire.

Zairian Envoy Comments

TA161121 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 May 82 p 1

[Report by Rahel Primor]

[Text] "We expect that in the very near future, ambassadors will be exchanged between Zaire and Israel. We also hope that following Zaire's move additional African countries will join us and renew diplomatic relations with Israel." This was stated last night in an exclusive interview granted to MA'ARIV by Mr Nimyaidika, the head of the Zairian president's office, a few hours after he arrived on a 3-day visit to Israel.

In answer to a question, Mr Nimyaidika said he had a verbal message for Prime Minister Menahem Begin. The guest refused to elaborate on the contents of the message prior to his meeting with the prime minister but noted the message is intended to reinforce the declaration on resuming political relations between the two countries.

Asked in which fields Zaire prefers to cooperate with Israel the head of President Mobutu's office replied: "We are expecting mutual cooperation on all possible issues -- in the military, economic and agricultural spheres. As befitting two friendly countries, we do not reject any sphere."

Mobutu's emissary will meet with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in addition to Prime Minister Menahem Begin. The Zairian Government servered its political relations with Israel in 1973 in a declaration from the UN rostrum. Following this move about 20 African countries also severed political relations with Israel.

Embassy in Jerusalem

TA161930 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] We will begin with the talks that Zairian President Mobutu's envoy has been holding in Jerusalem this afternoon. The president has decided to reopen the Zairian Embassy in Jerusalem. This was reported by the African envoy Mr Nimyaidika to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Nimyaidika is now meeting with the defense minister and here is our correspondent Cil'ad Mishori to report on the meeting between the foreign minister and the envoy from Zaire:

[Mishori -- live or recorded] Nimyaidika, the director-general of the Zairian president's office and Mobutu's personal aide, is leaving the foreign minister's office after having spent about 40 minutes speaking with him in a talk filled with smiles, conducted in French. He has said: Diplomatic relations were in fact renewed on 14 May.

[Begin recording in French] [Nimyaidika] We renewed diplomatic relations as of 14 May, Friday.

[Mishori] Will the embassy be situated in Jerusalem?

[Answer] Yes, why not? Since it is the capital of the State of Israel.

[Question] We have had good reason to think that other African countries will follow Zaire's example.

[Answer] Have you any reasons to think they will follow....

[Answer] Ah, why not? [end recording]

[Mishori -- translates above and continues] He did not go into detail about whether he had any information about such countries. In the talk with the foreign minister, Mobutu's envoy said the president of Zaire had decided on the renewal of relations because of the profound friendship he and the people in Zaire feel for the State of Israel and because the reasons that led Zaire to sever its relations with Israel no longer exist. The foreign minister said Zaire's decision would have a positive affect on our relations with Zaire and our relations with Africa. There could be an improvement in Zaire's relations with other countries, Shamir said, including the United States and perhaps European countries. We will do all we can to help Zaire. It is clear, the foreign minister said, that our resources are not unlimited, but we will help with joint projects. The foreign minister has invited his Zairian counterpart to Jerusalem, perhaps on the day the embassy is to be opened, a date not yet set. Nimyaidika is now meeting with the defense minister and this evening his meeting with the prime minister is expected.

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN RECEIVES ZAIRIAN ENVOY

TA161920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1730 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] A meeting between Mr Menahem Begin and the envoy from Zaire ended in Jerusalem about an hour ago. The prime minister invited Congo [as heard] President Mobutu to visit Jerusalem and expressed his readiness to visit Kinshasa in the autumn, when the condition of his leg improves. The prime minister added that Israel would put at Zaire's disposal a house for its embassy in Jerusalem. He also promised that Israel would help Zaire to the best of its ability. He lauded President Mobutu for the wise step he has taken in resuming ties with Israel.

Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports the envoy raised a series of ideas and suggestions for cooperation and for Israeli aid to his country.

GABON EXPECTED TO RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

TA161124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Jerusalem is now waiting for Gabon's announcement on resuming diplomatic relations with Israel. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports Defense Minister Sharon also visited Gabon during his secret visit to Africa about 6 months ago. Gabon severed diplomatic relations with Israel immediately after the Yom Kippur war.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON TIES WITH AFRICA

TA160615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 16 May 82

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on 16 May -- place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Shamir] The decision [by Zaire to resume diplomatic relations with Israel] is extremely good news for the government and the people of Israel. Since relations were severed -- after having close relations with the African countries for many years -- since then we have not rested and efforts have been exerted by the Israeli Foreign Ministry, especially in the last few years, to resume these relations and to put them on a course leading to cooperation which, to the best of our knowledge, will be most beneficial to both the African countries and Israel.

The decision by the Zairian Government made 2 days ago was expected. We did not know its exact timing, but we knew the day of the decision was approaching. Recently, we have had contacts with a large group of African countries whose leaders arrived at the conclusion that there is no justification for this abnormal situation in which there is an absence of relations with Israel. The difficulty centers around the decision about who will take the first step. The president of Zaire, Mobutu, decided to take the first step. We are certain others will follow in his footsteps, now that he has led the way.

[Schiffer] Could you give us a hint about which African countries will resume relations with Israel in the near future?

[Answer] I would not like to embarrass any African heads of state. I can only say there are several countries whose leaders have in their hearts made the decision to take this step and they are thinking about it and discussing the effective date. I assume the Zairian president's decision will accelerate their decision.

[Question] How will Israel's relations with international institutions and the international community change in the wake of the Zairian president's decision to resume relations with Israel?

[Answer] There is no doubt it will at once raise Israel's prestige in the international arena, in all international organizations and institutions. These events immediately leave their mark. The automatic [anti-Israeli] majority at the United Nations, which has always acted against us, has some members that are nonaligned countries -- among which the African countries constitute a considerable factor. However, that part of the automatic majority has begun to deteriorate. I have no doubt this move will affect the positions of the European countries and it will also have an impact on the United States, the South American countries and the Asian countries -- whose relations with us are either slight or nonexistent. This is a most important move whose effect we will feel in the upcoming months.

[Question] Which banner will Israel now hoist when dealing with Africa? In your opinion, what should Israel offer and what will it offer to the countries that resume diplomatic relations with Israel?

[Answer] We have had continuous contacts with the African countries, and these contacts did not start today. Our emissaries have been traveling throughout the African Continent. A day does not pass when emissaries of the Foreign Ministry do not travel somewhere in Africa. We have things to tell them and they listen to our point of view -- they are aware of it. Many of them, many of those persons I met at the last session of the UN General Assembly recall from their own personal experience their relations with Israel which benefitted them during most difficult situations. They also know that in their current state of affairs they need us; they need our guidance, aid, and cooperation.

U.S. ATTACHES CONDITIONS TO RENEWING MEMORANDUM

TA161046 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 May 82 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] The United States links the renewal of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation with Israel to achieving understanding between the two countries on coordination of moves in the political and strategic spheres and to Israel's abstention from unilateral actions.

It has been learned that Washington recently said it will be ready to renew the validity of the memorandum of understanding which was suspended following the annexation of the Golan Heights. However, Washington wants such unilateral Israeli acts to not recur. The U.S. administration contends the entire logic of strategic coordination with Israel is based on cooperation between the two countries and in each refraining from embarrassing the other. In return for the Israeli readiness to adopt the U.S. approach, Washington promises to adhere to the Camp David accords and to curb alternative political initiatives, including not giving support to the Saudi peace plan.

In the practical sphere the United States is prepared to cooperate with Israel on marketing Israeli products in other countries, on purchasing $200 million worth of Israeli products annually, on helping finance the development of the Lavi aircraft with U.S. funds, on converting $200 million in U.S. aid from a loan to a grant, on carrying out joint Israeli-U.S. military maneuvers and on helping Israel improve its ties with other countries.

The U.S. desires were brought to Israel's knowledge against the background of a U.S. fear of Israeli action in Lebanon. According to knowledgeable sources in the government, the coming months are vital for the establishment of strategic coordination with the United States and for stabilizing the improving relations between Israel and West European countries. A real danger lurks for such a positive political process if there is an escalation of the situation on Israel's northern border.

MINISTER SHARIR SAYS TABAH WILL NOT BE GIVEN UP

TA151115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir intends to raise the Tabah issue in the Cabinet meeting tomorrow. He will also suggest setting up an administrative body to deal with the development of Tabah. Minister Avraham Sharir told our correspondent in Elat Eytan Rabin the government will not give up Tabah. Sharir has pledged to the owners of the hotel being constructed there that they can go on with the construction and to set up ties with travel agents.

The tourism minister expressed the hope that Egypt will accept Israel's claims on the issue and that we will be able to reach a compromise without appealing to international arbitration. He emphasized that giving up Tabah will result in a psychological crisis for Elat inhabitants, will stop tourism development and will bankrupt hotel owners in Elat.

EEC DELEGATES PRESSURED ON JERUSALEM MEETING

TA161925 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] The foreign ministers of the EEC countries have passed a secret resolution to try to prevent the representatives of their countries from participating in the meeting of the European Council political committee scheduled to take place in Jerusalem in 2 days. Our correspondent in Paris Gil'ad Sher reports that as a result of this resolution personal pressure has been applied in the past two weeks by the governments of the EEC members on their delegates on the political committee, urging hem not to participate in the session. However, not all the delegates have acceded to their governments' urgings. At the moment, 23 of the 35 members of the committee are registered to arrive in Jerusalem, and among the absentees will be the representatives of France, Spain, Portugal and Greece as well as representatives of the Conservative Party in Britain. The countries in the western part of Europe -- including those that are not members of the EEC -- are members of the EC, and Israel has observer status on the council.

SOVIET DELEGATIONS ARRIVE TO MARK NAZI DEFEAT

TA141315 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Two delegations from the Soviet Union have arrived in Israel to take part in the day of victory over Nazi Germany and to mark 40 years of the Israel-Soviet Union friendship movement. One delegation includes three members, led by the chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the other delegation includes several artists who will take part in concerts.

Arrival Remarks

TA141543 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1430 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 14 May -- A Soviet delegation arrived in Israel today to participate in the celebrations of the victory over Nazi Germany and to mark the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Israel-Soviet Union friendship movement (formerly called "V League") in 1949. The delegation is accompanied by a group of artists who will perform in various places throughout the country.

Tomorrow the delegation will appear at a rally in a forest named after the Soviet Army near Ma'ale Hahamishar in the Jerusalem mountains. The members of the delegation will visit Nazareth, Kubbutz Gan Shmu'el and other places and will take part in a series of appearances in Tel Aviv and other locations. They will also meet Israeli personalities and journalists.

Upon arrival the head of the delegation, Dr Leonid Sarviro -- who is the chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries stated: "We have come as the guests of the Israel-Soviet Union friendship movement and we are grateful to it for granting us the opportunity to celebrate with you the 37th anniversary of the victory over fascism and nazism."

Asked by the ITIM correspondent what is the Soviet delegation's attitude toward terror as a means of political struggle, both in the world and in the Middle East, another member of the delegation, Dr Samuil Zivs -- a Jew who is deputy president of the association of Soviet jurists and a senior scientist at the state and law institute -- replied: "On this issue, there is absolute agreement between the official Soviet position and the position of the public represented by this delegation. It is an absolute position against terror and terrorism as a means of political struggle." Dr Zivs categorically rejected the remarks of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig who last January declared that "the Soviets are involved in the manipulations of international terrorism." He also rejected the claim voiced by people in Israel that the Soviets were behind the explosion in the synagogue on Rue Kupernick in Paris.

Dr Zivs added: "We have come to you from a colder country overflowing with inner warmth." The head of the delegation added the artists had come to Israel after a lengthy interval and that he hoped this would strengthen cultural relations between the two peoples.

Normal Ties Sought

TA151231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Thousands attended a rally this morning in a forest named after the Red Army in the Jerusalem mountains to mark the 37th anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany. The head of the Soviet delegation to the rally said he is confident his government wants normal [taqinim] relations with Israel. In this context, he noted the remarks of Leonid Brezhnev at the congress of Soviet professional worker unions, according to which Moscow was interested in having good relations with all states and peoples, without exception. Our correspondent Asher Schwartz reports that MAPAM MK Naftali Feder participated in the rally and he also greeted the participants. MK Feder said many people in Israel wanted diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union to resume. He emphasized a just peace in the Middle East depended on cooperation between the two superpowers.

Delegation Head on Middle East

TA161243 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 May 82 p 15

[Excerpt] "The solution to the problems of the Middle East peoples lies in the principles and proposals raised by Leonid Brezhnev at the 26th congress of the CPSU," said Leonid Sarviro, the head of the Belorussian Republic Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship. Sarviro heads the Soviet delegation that arrived in Israel on Friday as the guest of the Israel-Soviet union friendship movement. A delegation of artists from the Soviet Union also arrived with him.

In the VIP lounge at Ben-Gurion Airport the Soviet delegation's leader was asked whether peace between Israel and Egypt does not constitute progress toward the peace in the region which the Soviet Union also desires. The delegation's chairman repeated the principles presented by Leonid Brezhnev: the return of all territories occupied in 1967, guaranteeing the sovereignty of all countries in the region including Israel and the realization of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

To repeated questions on this issue the Soviet delegation's chairman finally replied by saying: "I believe the agreement between Israel and Egypt and the Camp David Accords has created a problem in the region and led to a deadlock."

Still, could that not at least be considered progress? Sarviro reiterated the three principles of Brezhnev and added: "The task of the progressive Soviet public sector in its struggle against the forces of reaction and war is constantly increasing."

BEGIN SUGGESTS TELEM JOIN GOVERNMENT COALITION

TA131721 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 13 May 82

[Telem Chairman MK Mordekhay Ben-Porat interviewed by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat -- live by telephone]

[Excerpts] [Question] MK Mordekhay Ben-Porat, last night you, together with your friend MK Yiga'el Hurvitz, visited the prime minister. Did the prime minsiter invite Telem to join the government?

[Answer] The prime minister called us in for a meeting last night. He suggested that we join the Likud and the government. We discussed political, security and economic issues. In a few days hence, say next week, we will have to discuss among ourselves -- Yiga'el Hurvitz and myself -- whether joining this Cabinet will be beneficial or detrimental to the country. At any rate, we will have to examine our consciences and decide.

[Question] What you are saying is that at this stage you cannot say what your position is?

[Answer] No, I cannot, but I would like to thank the prime minister and compliment him for the friendship and warmth he displayed in the meeting and for his frankness, since he was very straightforward.

[Question] Whether or not you join the Likud, are you supporting early elections?

[Answer] First of all, let me say all attempts should be made to form a stable government. If I were convinced that elections would result in some drastic change, I would say this is worthwhile. But it is highly questionable whether a clear-cut decision would be made in such elections. Changing the balance by giving one seat to one side or the other would not alter the picture. Elections will only be costly and the treasury will be forced to continue to contribute a lot of money; the parties will suffer great losses, it will embroil the parties in turmoil and the country will also be entangled in a mess and I am not sure the result would justify elections. However, if it is possible to form a stable government today, I would prefer that. I am not talking about a government that would be stable thanks to our two Knesset seats, but in general.

MINISTRY OF ENERGY REPORTS ON OIL DRILLING

TA130938 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 May 82 p 2

[Text] Thirty barrels of oil were produced yesterday during pumping tests being carried out in the Tzug Tamrur well near 'Arad. This is an encouraging sign, but no conclusions about the Well's commercial viability can be drawn yet. This has been reported by the Ministry of Energy spokesman, Mr Avishay Amir, who war reporting on the progress of the tests. Mr Amir pointed out the quantity pumped out yesterday makes it necessary to continue with the tests which will take about 2 weeks. This is the normal time for such tests, and only at the end of the tests will it be possible to decide whether drilling is worthwhile. The Energy Ministry spokesman emphasized the importance of the Tzug Tamrur discovery lies in the proof of the presence of hydrocarbons in the sandstone strata from the Triassic Age in the northeast part of the Negev. The Ministry of Energy has warned against rushed and overoptimistic evaluations likely to mislead the public about the value of the discovery.

ALGERIA

SYRIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

LD152014 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 May 82

[Excerpts] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad arrived at Houari Boumediene International Airport at 1600 today on a short working visit to Algeria. The Syrian president was welcomed by President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general.

At the airport's VIP lounge, the Syrian president told newsmen:

[Begin recording] My short working visit, as is common knowledge, is another among the meetings held between Brother President Chadli Bendjedid and myself to exchange views on pan-Arab issues. It is natural that we meet at this particular time, especially as we see signs of a new imperialist conspiracy being planned for the Arab arena. It is aimed at pan-Arabizing the Camp David agreement and at instilling a capitulationist and defeatist spirit into the minds of Arab citizens. It is natural that under such circumstances we meet and exchange views on what should be done to stand up to, defeat and abort this conspiracy. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Bendjedid, Al-Asad Meet

JN160740 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Algiers -- A meeting was held yesterday evening between President al-Asad and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid at the former's residence. The two presidents discussed convening a summit conference of the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front in the near future to discuss the regional situation, particularly imperialist-Zionist schemes to Arabize the Camp David accords.

At 2100 yesterday, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, held a meeting which lasted until 2300.

Statement Released

LD162000 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] At the end of President Hafiz al-Asad's visit, a press statement was released, stating that the two presidents studied the emerging situation in the Arab homeland and the imperialist-Zionist assault to which this homeland is being exposed, with the aims of liquidating the revolutionary, progressive and patriotic positions in the east and west of the Arab homeland and the Palestinian cause by extending the framework of the Camp David accords through linking other Arab states to this imperialist course. In this respect, the two presidents call on the Arab states to adhere to the resolutions of the Baghdad summit and to give up any attempt to restore their relations with the Egyptian regime as long as the reasons and circumstances which led to severing relations with the regime continue to exist.

Reviewing the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the repressive pressure and Zionist attempts to liquidate the Palestinian cause, the two presidents expressed their support and backing for the popular uprisings in the occupied Arab territories, these being the only sound way to regain and restore the rights of the Palestinian people and to enable them to set up their own state.

The two presidents studied the position of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. Agreement was reached, in the light of the contacts that took place among the members of the front, to hold a meeting of the front's foreign ministers before the end of this month in Algiers. [as heard]

Al-Asad Departs 16 May

LD161654 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Algiers, 16 May (APS) -- Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad left Algiers this afternoon at the end of a 24-hour working visit during which he held high-level political talks, consultations and exchanges of views. President and Party Secretary General Chadli Bendjedid, members of the Political Bureau and government and the ambassadors of both countries were at the airport to see the guest off.

KENYAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES WITH MOI LETTER

LD161736 Algiers APS in Arabic 1401 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Algiers, 16 May (APS) -- Kenyan Foreign Minister Robert Ouko arrived in Algiers this morning with a letter from Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi to President Chadli Bendjedid. Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Ibrahimi welcomed him at the airport. Ouko explained that he is here to brief President Bendjedid on the recent meeting of the OAU bureau in Nairobi. He added that he will present President Moi's views on the position of the OAU. He expressed pleasure at being in Algeria and sorrow over the death of Mohamed Ben Yahia. He said he also would offer condolences to President Bendjedid on behalf of President Moi.

BENDJEDID WELCOMES LIBERIAN HEAD OF STATE DOE

LD152030 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Liberian head of state and chairman of the People's Redemption Council, Samuel Doe, arrived at approximately 1630 today at Houari Boumediene International Airport on a 3-day friendly and working visit to Algeria. He was welcomed at the airport by Brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN.

After listening to the two national anthems, the two heads of state inspected a company of the republican guard. Liberian Head of State Samuel Doe then met with a number of government members, headed by Brother Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister, and a number of brother ministers and senior party and state officials. He then met with African diplomatic corps members in Algiers.

At Houari Boumediene Airport's VIP lounge, the Liberian head of state made a statement to the press, saying in view of the fact that Algeria is an important member of the OAU, we must tackle two basic points -- the Western Sahara issue and Chad. He also said: My first visit to Algeria will permit me to gain better knowledge of its political and economic situation.

Talks Begin 14 May

LD160212 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Algerian-Liberian political talks began yesterday between Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, and Samuel Doe, head of state and chairman of the People's Redemption Council.

The talks were attended by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and his Liberian counterpart.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI WELCOMES SYRIAN PRESIDENT AL-ASAD

LD141656 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1637 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 14 May (JANA) -- Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad this evening arrived in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He was welcomed by the brother leader of the revolution. Also welcoming Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad were Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud and the brother secretary of the people's committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

The Syrian president is accompanied by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

Talks Begin 14 May

LD141920 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1740 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 14 May (JANA) -- The brother leader of the revolution this evening held a meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

'Another Meeting' Held

LD142246 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Another meeting has been held between the brother leader and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The meeting was attended by Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-Ubaydi, secretary of the general people's committee for foreign liaison. The meeting also was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

'Closed Meeting' Held

JN150645 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Tripoli — Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi held a closed meeting at 2030 yesterday. The meeting lasted until 2100. They later were joined by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud and 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the people's committee for foreign liaison.

Discussion during the meeting dealt with the regional situation in light of the imperialist and Zionist schemes hostile to the Arab nation and the attempts to Arabize the Camp David conspiracy. They also discussed efforts to generalize the Camp David conspiracy in the Arab arena through dragging other Arab parties into it and the resumption of relations with the Egyptian regime.

Stress was put on the need for the Arab countries to remain committed to the ninth Arab summit conference resolutions and to consider the resumption of relations with the Egyptian regime, which is chained by the Camp David shackles and the capitulatory peace treaty with the Zionist enemy, as a violation of the Arab summit conferences' resolutions and some form of recognition of the racist Zionist entity.

The two sides stressed their determination to confront imperialist-Zionist schemes and any Arab deviation from pan-Arab commitments.

Report on Talks

LD151334 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] The leader of the revolution yesterday met with the president of the Syrian Arab Republic within the framework of coordination between the countries of the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to foil the dirty and blatant attempts of reactionary Arab regimes and Egypt, which endeavor to open the doors of Camp David with the intention of propagating the capitulatory treacherous course and encircling the rejection movement led by the masses of our Arab nation.

Attempts by the shaky reactionary regimes, that are striving to perpetuate the capitulation and protection under the American umbrella and submission before the barbaric attacks of the Zionist enemy on the Arab territories at a time when Egypt is still recognizing the enemy, were discussed at the meeting. The meeting also studied practical methods for confronting this traitorous policy striving to make capitulation and defeat a fait accompli and meeting with the enemy through Egypt something natural. This is regarded as a serious retraction on the pan-Arab progressive resolutions adopted at the Baghdad summit, which regard the boycott of Egypt as binding on all Arab countries unless Egypt breaks off relations with the enemy.

The importance of developing the material and political capabilities of both countries to confront the attempts aimed at spreading treason also were studied at the meeting. The brother leader and President Hafiz al-Asad reviewed the duties of the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to foil all conspiracies being hatched by the United States and the Zionist enemy through the reactionary Arab regimes. Out of the two countries' pan-Arab responsibility and in implementation of the resolutions of the Arab peoples in the jamahiriyah and Syria with regard to unity, these resolutions were discussed in order to implement them.

A third meeting was held today between the brother leader of the revolution and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The meeting was attended by Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud and the secretary of the people's committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison, and on the Syrian side by Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Brother Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

Talks Resume 15 May

JN151419 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 May 82

[Excerpts] Tripoli -- President Hafiz al-Asad and Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi met at 1245 today. The two leaders resumed the discussion of the topics which were dealt with at the two previous meetings.

The discussion focused on the general Arab situation, inter-Arab relations and the means to confront the new imperialist-Zionist onslaught and their attempt to Arabize Camp David, drag new Arab parties into this plot and recognize Israel by breaching the Baghdad summit resolution which determined the severance of relations with the Egyptian regime.

Syrian Leader Departs

LD151626 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 May 82

[Excerpt] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad left the jamahiriyah this afternoon. He was seen off by the leader of the revolution and also by Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud; Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, chief of staff of the armed forces; and by the secretary of the people's committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

Tripoli Details Talks

LD151940 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 May 82

[Excerpts] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad left the jamahiriyah this afternoon.

Talks which lasted for many hours were held throughout the Syrian president's stay in the jamahiriyah. The talks were attended on the Libyan side by Staff Maj Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud; Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, chief of staff of the armed forces, and 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the general people's committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. On the Syrian side were 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister, and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

All aspects of the situation in the Arab region were debated, particularly the Arabization of the stable David agreements and the attempts aimed at trapping and involving a number of Arab states in stable David under the slogan that Egypt had retrieved the Sinai. This was an attempt by the reactionary states to mislead Arab public opinion and to cover the price which Egypt had paid in return for the Sinai -- the wager which Egypt made with the Zionist enemy for normalizing relations, for giving up its Arab and international commitments and for forfeiting the Palestinian issue. Instead of putting pressure on Egypt to return to the Arabs, certain Arab reactionary regimes began to endorse Egypt's actions of recognizing the enemy and of selling the Palestinian issue in an attempt to pressure the Arab rejectionist forces to be in the orbit of the capitulatory solutions.

At these meetings, they also asserted that certain Arab states' rapprochement with Egypt is reneging on the resolutions of the Baghdad summit. They considered that reconciliation with Egypt is an attempt by the reactionary regimes to lessen the pressure on Egypt and to get rid of the consequences of stable David, consequences which are represented in the relationship between Egypt and the Zionist enemy.

Within this framework, both sides warn the Arab countries persisting on this already planned course that seeks to realize strategic harmony between Israel, the United States and Arab reaction and against the Palestinian cause and the higher interests of the Arab nation that these attempts taking place conflict with the resolutions of the Baghdad summit. The two sides call on the Arab nation to adhere to the Baghdad resolutions.

The two sides also studied the attempts seeking to Arabize the war which the Iraqi regime has waged against the Islamic revolution in Iran in implementation of the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plans to bring the downfall of the Islamic revolution in Iran, the revolution which has been in cohesion with the Arabs, and to liberate Palestine. This war is destroying Iraq's capabilities and is removing it from the arena of Arab-Zionist struggle. Therefore, the two sides agreed to resist this plan which is aimed at covering up the pan-Islamic crime committed by the Iraqi regime.

The Arab masses cannot be deceived by such attempts, attempts aimed at making it an Arab-Iranian war.

The two sides affirmed the need to warn the Arab masses of the seriousness of this plan and the seriousness of this war. The pressing need to convene the next pan-Arab summit of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front also was examined. Contacts are now being made with the other front members to set the date of the meeting. The two sides also agreed to implement the resolutions of the popular congresses and the political leadership in Syria with regard to unity between the two countries.

JANA COMMENTS ON HUSAYN'S PLAN TO VISIT EGYPT

LD160844 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 16 May (JANA) -- The Lebanese magazine ASH-SHIRA' reported that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn intends to visit Cairo this month. Commenting on this report, JANA's political editor writes:

It would be more becoming for the Iraqi regime to show respect for the Arab resolutions adopted at the Baghdad Arab summit conference, that provide for a boycott of the Egyptian regime as long as the reasons for this boycott continue.

The Iraqi regime, which has turned its back on the Arab nation and devoted all its capabilities to striking at the Islamic revolution in Iran in order to serve the interests of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, should use these capabilities to serve the Arab battle against the Zionist enemy.

The editor affirms that to meet with the Egyptian regime while it maintains its alliance with the Zionist enemy is to meet with the Zionist enemy through the Egyptian regime which is trying to develop its traitorous role and drown the reactionary Arab regimes in the quagmire of the stable of treason.

It is right then for the masses of the Arab people to blow up the treason in the serial of defeat and to punish the agents and traitors and thereby pave the way for liberation with their bodies so that the banners of Arab dignity and victory may flutter.

JANA VIEWS MUBARAK'S REMARKS ON RELATIONS

LD151008 Tripoli JANA in English 0837 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 15 May (JANA) -- The Egyptian daily ASH-SHA'B quoted the Egyptian president, Husni Mubarak, as saying he would not visit any Arab country which has no diplomatic relations with the Egyptian Government. He added that his attendance to the non-alignment conference of Baghdad or, African summite in Tripoli and the Fes Arab summit are conditional on exchange of diplomatic relations between Egyptian and the Arab countries, without prejudice to the Camp Daivid's accords.

JANA's political editor commented on this statement saying:

At a time when the Zionist enemy is consolidating his presence in Egypt through its diplomatic missions and envoys, at a time when -- adding insult to Arab nation's injury -- the Israeli flag is hoisted over Egypt and Palestine, the Egyptian president is boasting that he would not set foot to any Arab country which does not restore relations with Egypt, without prejudice to Camp David.

The Egyptian president is ignoring the fact that it is Egypt which is in need of the Arab nation and not vice versa. The Arab nation, which is opposed to the presence of Israel in Egypt, cannot accept the Zionist expansionist aggression into Egypt. And Egypt has no alternative but to confront the Israeli enemy and tear Camp David's accords to pieces, as these accords are responsible for tearing Egypt apart from the Arab nation, transforming it into a pawn in the hand of Israel and America.

The Israeli flag hoisted over Cairo is the same flag hoisted over Jerusalem. In both cases this symbolizes occupation. The Egyptian Government should tear this flag to pieces and should take the road of armed struggle for the liberation of Palestine instead of asking the Arabs to join her in its state of occupation. Egypt is at present in the same position as any settlement usurped by the Zionist enemy.

The Egyptian Government should fully understand that the Arab nation will not pardon As-Sadat for the crimes he committed against it and that his execution was and remains to be a lesson to all traitors as betrayal of the Arab nation will be met by severe punishment.

PRC ENVOY ARRIVES, SPEAKS ON RELATIONS

LD161404 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] The secretary of the people's committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison met this morning with Xuan [as heard], personal envoy of the PRC Government. Discussions during the meeting covered ways and means to consolidate and develop relations in various spheres and to exchange views on international issues of joint interest.

The Chinese Government envoy and members of his delegation arrived in Tripoli early this morning on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He made a statement to a JANA correspondent, in which he said the visit comes with a view to enhancing cooperation between our two countries. The development of relations between us serves not only the interests of our two peoples but also world peace. The Libyan people are heroic, known for their struggle against challenges. He added that the jamahiriyah has contributed to the struggle of the Palestinian people for the recovery of their occupied territory. The jamahiriyah and China are both facing challenges from the big world powers. They also are facing threats and they are fighting side by side to safeguard their dignity and national sovereignty. For Libya to be strong and respected under the leadership of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi serves not only the Libyan people but also the interests of the Chinese people.

Talks Begin 16 May

LD161912 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 16 May (JANA) -- Libyan-Chinese talks began this evening at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in Tripoli. The talks deal with the consolidation of bilateral relations and promoting cooperation in all fields.

Taking part in the talks were: the secretary general for liaison affairs at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, a number of heads of departments at the bureau and the secretary of Libyan People's Bureau in Beijing.

On the Chinese side were: the personal envoy of the Chinese Government, Xuan [name as received], the Chinese ambassador to the jamahiriyah and members of the accompanying delegation.

Means of promoting cooperation between the two countries in the interest of both peoples were discussed at today's meeting. Technical committees were set up to draw up a complete picture of this cooperation.

MOROCCO

MAP ON LIBYAN ACTION IN OAU REVISION COMMITTEE

LD141440 Rabat MAP in English 1221 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Rabat, 13 May (MAP) -- Adjourned sine die Monday for a first time, the works of the third session of the committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for the revision of the charter in Addis Ababa were officially put off again Tuesday "because of the irregular conditions of its summoning and especially the circumstances currently prevailing within the organization."

Since the abusive act of OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo last February in Addis Ababa when he unilaterally decided to admit the "SDAR" [Saharan Democratic Arab Republic] within the OAU, it has become common knowledge that a serious crisis, perhaps a fatal one for the organization, has settled in inter-African relations.

Mr Edem Kodjo himself recognized the existence of this crisis, and the tour he is currently undertaking in some African countries in an attempt to justify his illegal act, clearly proves not only the existence of this crisis, but also the guilty conscience of the secretary general who tries to replaster the OAU, now that he has grasped the amplitude of the disaster caused by his illegal decision. What matters most now, is the weighing of the consequences of such a crisis and the decisions to be taken by African states to face the menace of split-up hovering over the OAU.

So, what is now taking place in Addis Ababa at the level of the committee in charge of the revision of the charter is only a foretaste of what the Tripoli summit scheduled for next August will be like.

Indeed, if the nineteenth conference of African heads of state must take place in the same atmosphere of ambiguity and irregularity, one can, as of now, predict without any risk of error that what will be brought forth in Tripoli will be another accomplished fact that Libyans will try to impose on Africa in full contempt for the normal regulations of the functioning of the pan-African organization.

When we know the unbounded ambitions of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, and when we see that Libya, which is to shelter the coming summit, is currently posing as the rapporteur of the committee for the revision of the OAU Charter which no longer groups more than a dozen countries, it is common sense to think that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi will act the same way during the summit, caring so little for the consequences his attitude can have on the future of the continent and the Organization of African Unity, whose edification lasted twenty years of constant and common efforts thanks to the unshaking willpower of member countries which so much insisted to have this organization, and especially its supreme instance which is the heads of state summit, stand for their unity and common destiny and not disunion, clans and adventure.

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN DELEGATION DEPARTS -- Casablanca, 14 May (MAP) -- The Bulgarian parliamentary delegation led by Mr Ninko Stefanov, vice-chairman of the Bulgarian National Assembly, left here Thursday after a several day visit to Morocco. During their stay here, the Bulgarian MP's held a series of talks with Moroccan responsibles and especially with the speaker of the Moroccan House of Representatives, Mr Dey Ould Sidi Baba. [Text] [Rabat MAP in English 1212 GMT 14 May 82 LD]

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI APPOINTS TWO MINISTERS 15 MAY

JN151956 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Khartoum, 15 May (SUNA) -- President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri issued today a decree appointing Dr 'Uthman 'Abd ar-Rahman Hakim minister for agriculture and irrigation and Dr 'Uthman Sa'id Ahmad Isma'il minister for education and guidance.

The president issued another decree firing Dr Hasan at-Tayyib al-Haj from his post as governor of Al-Jazirah scheme and appointing 'Abd al-'Azim Muhammad Hasanayn as governor of the scheme.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

PLOTTERS SENTENCED LIBYAN TRAINING CITED

NC152211 Paris AFP in English 1854 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Bangui, 15 May (AFP) -- A special court today sentenced to death five men found guilty of plotting against the military regime in the Central African Republic, two of them in absentia. A sixth man was acquitted, while the trial of the seventh is not yet finished. The court said it had further investigations to make in his case.

Those condemned were Isaac Kpakpa, Gabriel Kossi and Benjamin Alazabo -- who admitted they were Libyan-trained members of the Centrafrican Liberation Armed Forces (FALC), the armed wing of Iddi Lala's Centrafrican National Liberation Movement (MCLN) -- along with Mr Lala himself and one of his lieutenants, Martin Koesse, who were not in court.

Acquitted was Thomas Isaafi, while the seventh man was Maurice Ali, 35, said to be a recruiting agent for the FALC when he kept a bar in the Chadian capital of Ndjamena.

Mr Kpakpa, Mr Kossi and Mr Alazabo were arrested after an explosion in a Gangui cinema on July 14 last year that killed three people, including a French citizen, and injured seven others. The MCLN, which wants the French garrison in Centrafrica removed, claimed responsibility.

The defendants were also accused of involvement in a plot to blow up the French military camp at Bouar, in the west of the country.

Ali Maurice was said to have approached about 100 Centrafricans and recuited several, who were joined in Ndjamena by others from Brazzaville, capital of the Congo. In February 1980 almost 150 left on board a Libyan plane for Libya, the court was told. They were taught the use of arms, sabotage and the making of explosives in a training camp along with others from Cameroon, Senegal and Niger, it was also alleged. They were visited several times by Mr Lala, and those who asked to return to Bangui were beaten and threatened with death.

In June 1981, the members of the commando on trial infiltrated into the Bouar region carrying around six kilograms (13 pounds) of plastic explosive and detonators. Each was given 450,000 CFA francs (almost 1,500 dollars) by Mr Lala.

CHAD

COUNCIL OF STATE UNABLE TO CHOOSE PRIME MINISTER

AB151414 Paris AFP in French 1118 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Ndjamena, 15 May (AFP) -- There is disagreement among the leaders of the political military factions composing the Council of State set up last 8 May in Chad over the nomination of a prime minister charged with forming the new government, informed sources pointed out in Ndjamena on Saturday.

The president of the present government, Goukouni Oueddei, reportedly has adopted a careful attitude, refraining from supporting any of the factions, the same sources added.

The foreign affairs minister, Acyl Ahmat, leader of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR-pro Libyan) announced he would not take part in the Council of State. He does not believe the council is a "miraculous solution" to the Chadian crisis. In a statement to the press, Acyl said the Council of State has "too much power," this, according to him, is a risk for the government machinery.

Presided over by Col Kamougue Wadal Abdel Kader -- one of the principal leaders from southern Chad -- the Council of State is "the supreme organ of conception, reflexion and orientation." It is charged mainly with making proposals for the nomination of a prime minister to President Goukouni who is the last person to decide on the nomination.

The Chadian news agency (ATP) and Radio Chad, both government news organs, have in the last few days become more and more critical of the inability of the leaders of the factions and the Council of State to appoint a prime minister "who will be able to meet our hopes."

"The Council of State, far from appointing the right man or the man of salvation, seems to freely give way to attempts by the factions to appoint their man," ATP stated. It says the expected prime minister would be far from "being the man Chadians long to have."

ZAIRE

AZAP REPORTS ON TIES WITH ISRAEL, U.S. AID

AB150849 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0820 GMT 15 May 82

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 15 May (AZAP) -- Zaire has decided to renew its diplomatic relations -- broken in 1973 -- with Israel. The decision, made public in Kinshasa by official sources on Friday, came after two meetings presided over in the morning by the head of state. The first meeting was that of the Executive Council and was devoted to the country's economic recovery and financial revival. This meeting made some important decisions in this direction. The second meeting, that of the bureau of the MPR Central Committee, reviewed Zaire's foreign policy particularly toward the United States of America, as well as on the Western Sahara, Chad, the Middle East and the Falklands.

From the review of relations between Zaire and the United States of America, it appears relations between the two countries "must remain at the level of those existing between two friendly countries." "We will not reconsider the issue of American aid which we gave up following unfriendly and unacceptable statements made against the Republic of Zaire by certain members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the American Senate," Citizen Kande declared, reaffirming that "Zaire's intention is to pursue normal relations with (?all) friendly countries."

COUNCIL REDUCES NUMBER OF CIVIL SERVANTS

AB160612 Paris AFP in French 1526 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] At the end of their meeting on Friday, the Zairian Council of Ministers took important measures to reduce public expenditures. This was announced by Kande Dzambulate, Zairian information minister and spokesman for the council.

These measures are mainly connected with a sharp reduction in the number of civil servants, especially in primary and secondary education, where 40,000 civil servants will be laid off next academic year, he added.

GAMBIA

NEW TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION MINISTER NAMED

AB141645 Paris AFP in French 1626 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Banjul, 14 May (AFP) -- Keba Jawara, vice speaker (vice president) of the outgoing Gambian National Assembly, on Friday was appointed minister of territorial administration and lands, a communique from the Gambian president's office announced.

Keba Jawara replaces Momodou Lamine Soho who resigned on Thursday from the new Gambian Government formed on 12 May. The communique indicated that the head of state "accepted with regret" the resignation of Mr Soho.

GHANA

PAPER URGES 'CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM' OF PNDC

AB160758 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 16 May 82

[Press review]

[Text] The CHRISTIAN MESSENGER expresses support for the assertion by Rev Dr Damuah, member of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], that no revolution can thrive without constructive cirticism. The paper says it is reassuring that the PNDC believes in criticism. It points out that it is dangerous to keep on showering praises on the government without pointing out its weaknesses. The MESSENGER believes that it is the genuine critics and not the sycophantic flatterers who are the true friends of the revolution. It urges Ghanaians to be bold in criticizing the PNDC where necessary because it is more prudent to criticize the government in power to enable it to make amends than condemn it after it fownfall.

The MESSENGER wonders whether those controversial bans imposed by some PNDC regional secretaries were authorized or a mere one-man show. If they were a one-man show, then the PNDC should note that such a show is dangerous for a young revolution. The MESSENGER advises that every statement made by any member of the PNDC or its secretaries should receive the blessings of the council and be made an official policy. There is also need for cohesion, cooperation, coordination and harmony in the discharge of their duties. The MESSENGER also points out that the absence of a PNDC program or a masterplan has been the cause of this mess. The paper refers to the accusation that the churches have failed themselves in the revolution and emphasizes that nobody can support a revolution if he does not know what role to play. After 5 months in office, the PNDC must be able to tell the people where they are going and what they are expected to do in their new situation. Only a masterplan can provide these answers, concludes the MESSENGER.

GUINEA

SEKOU TOURE CALLS FOR 'TRUE' AFRICAN UNITY

AB151340 Paris AFP in French 0820 GMT 15 May 82

[Text] Dakar, 15 May (AFP) -- In a message to the nation on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the "Guinean Democratic Party," President Ahmed Sekou Toure appealed to the peoples of Africa to complete the process for the total liberation of the African Continent to achieve its "true unity," announced Radio Conakry monitored in Dakar.

The Guinean head of state is of the opinion that the "true unity" of the continent must begin "with an economic community of Africa leading to the United States of Africa."

On the other hand, President Sekou Toure reaffirmed his country's readiness to contribute to the finding of a peaceful solution to conflicts among states. It will be recalled that Sekou Toure is the current chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee charged with the responsibility of resolving the conflict between Iran and Iraq. He is also a member of the OAU implementation committees on the Western Sahara and Chad.

UPPER VOLTA

ZERBO, SAUDI PRINCE SIGN PROTOCOL 14 MAY

AB142141 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Head of state Col Saye Zerbo and Prince Muhammad al-Faysal Al Sa'ud today signed a protocol between our country and the Dar al-Maal al-Islami banking and financial group. According to this draft agreement, the two sides agreed on the establishment of three companies in Upper Volta, a sales establishment, a participation company and the Dar al-Maal al-Islami group of banking institutions, known as the [name indistinct] bank. The three institutions, to be attached to a mother company established in the Bahamas, respectively would have an initial capital equivalent of $10 million, or approximately 3 billion CFA francs, for the Upper Volta Islamic Investments Company; $20 million, or approximately 6 billion CFA francs, for the (Mashra Faysal) al-Islami of Upper Volta, an Islamic bank, and 3 billion CFA francs for the Upper Volta Solidarity Fund. These institutions will be established after Upper Voltan authorities have adopted the relevant documents.

NEW DEFENSE STAFF CHIEF, OTHERS APPOINTED

AB161226 Paris AFP in French 1058 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Ouagadoudou, 16 May (AFP) -- Several appointments within the Upper Voltan Armed Forces were announced on Saturday evening by Captain Kambou, spokesman for the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress [CMRPN].

Col Yoryan Gabiel Some was appointed chief of defense staff of the Upper Voltan Armed Forces -- a post occupied by Col Saye Zerbo, chairman of the CMRPN, head of state and minister of national defense and veterans affairs since the 25 November 1980 coup d'etat.

Before his appointment, Col Yoryan Gabriel Some -- former minister of interior and security (1971 to 1974) -- was the secretary general of the National Defense Committee.

Furthermore, Col Yaoua Tamini, former deputy chief of defense staff of the armed forces, was appointed commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade-Commando Group and action deputy secretary general of the National Defense Committee.

Col Tiemoko Joanny Ouedraogo, former delegate to the office of veterans was appointed deputy chief of defense staff of the Upper Voltan Armed Forces. Col Mamadou Djerma, former commander of operations at the general headquarters of the Upper Voltan Armed Forces, has been appointed permanent secretary of the Ministry of National Defense and Veterans Affairs.

ANGOLA

RSA RENEWS BOMBING ATTACKS IN HUILA, CUNENE

NC161925 Paris AFP in English 1910 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Luanda, 16 May (AFP) -- South Africa has renewed bombing attacks in Angola's Huila and Cunene Provinces, killing six people and injuring 14 in the latest raid today, the Angolan Defence Ministry announced.

The casualties occurred when nine Mirage F-1 South African Air Force jets attacked Angolan Army positions in Cahana in northeast Cunene Province, a ministry communique said.

On Friday, seven civilians, including four children, were killed and several were injured when the South African military bombed an electrical centre of an iron mine at Cassinga-North and the railway station at Jamba, the communique said. On the previous day, four to six Mirage jets bombed an Angolan Army position at Cuvango (formerly Paiva). The same day, the South Africans attacked Jamba airport, the ministry said.

During the first 16 days of May, the Angolans registered 115 reconnaissance flights by the South Africans over Angola with some going as far as 300 kms (200 miles) into Angolan territory, the statement said. It said that 78 of these flights occurred between May 1 and 14 and concentrated on the regions of Jamba, Cassinga, Mulondo, Chibemba (all in Huila Province) and Chaamo, Ngiva and Xangongo, in Cunene Province.

The communique said that recent statements by South African top officials tended to justify such actions as "preparing internal and international opinion for the just character of its policy of legitimate defence."

"Angola does not threaten the sovereignty of South Africa, but helps a people who are fighting for their liberty in the same way it has helped other peoples during their liberation struggles", the statement said in an apparent reference to SWAPO guerrillas who are fighting against South Africa for the independence of Namibia.

"This gesture of solidarity does not constitute any interference in the internal affairs of another state because South Africa has no right in Namibia, which it occupies by force," the communique said. It said that stepped-up attacks by South Africa and the concentration of forces along the northern Namibian border, next to Angola, would prejudice current negotiatons on Namibian independence.

THREE SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR 'PLOTTING'

AB141101 Luanda ANGOP in French 1044 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Cabinda, 14 May (ANGOP) -- The Luanda revolutionary tribunal sitting in Cabinda in the north of the country has condemned to death by firing squad for plotting against the internal security of the state: Manuel Bandioba (age 39), Daniel Kuende (31) and Alberto Casmiro (30).

The same tribunal also sentenced 17 other people accused of complicity to prison terms ranging from 1 to 4 years.

On the other hand, the tribunal acquitted the accused Luis Mabiala. It also granted conditional releases to those sentenced to prison terms ranging from 1 to 4 years for good behavior during their bail period.

ANGOLAN, SAO TOME YOUTH LEADERS LEAVE FOR USSR

AB150807 Luanda ANGOP in French 2055 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] Luanda, 14 May (ANGOP) -- Domingos Bartolomeu, first secretary of the MPLA youth wing and member of the MPLA Central Committee, left Luanda today for a 10-day working visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Leninist Komsomol.

The visit essentially is aimed at exchanging experience between the MPLA youth wing and the Leninist Komsomol and at strengthening the traditional relations of friendship between the two youth organizations.

The war situation in southern Angola and the common struggle against international imperialism are expected to be discussed during the visit. Domingos Bartolomeu is accompanied by Ventura de Azevedo, MPLA youth wing secretary for international relations.

Meanwhile, Alcino Pinto, official of the Sao Tome and Principe liberation movement, stopped over in Luanda on his way to the Soviet Union where he will be on a friendly working visit at the invitation of the Leninist Komsomol.

MOZAMBIQUE

PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR VISIT TO NICARAGUA 14 MAY

EA151516 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 15 May 82

[Summary] President Samora Machel left Maputo last night for a visit to Nicaragua. He was accompanied by the Mozambique ministers of foreign affairs and of posts, telecommunications and civil aviation, Joaquim Chissano and Rui Lousa.

Reportage on Visit

For Havana, Managua and other coverage of the official visit by President Samora Moises Machel to Nicaragua, Grenada and Cuba, including his arrival in Managua and early meetings with Nicaraguan leaders, see the 17 May Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

BRIEFS

ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT'S ENVOY -- President Samora Machel yesterday received Reuben Kamanga, special envoy of Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda. The special envoy delivered a message from the Zambian head of state. According to a presidential spokesman, President Kaunda's emissary explained the Zambian leader's recent meeting with South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha. Rueben Kamanga returned home yesterday. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 14 May 82 EA]

NAMIBIA

SWAPO COMMUNIQUE REPORTS 3 RSA SOLDIERS KILLED

AB161158 Luanda ANGOP in French 1100 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Luanda, 15 May (ANGOP) -- According to a communique published by SWAPO in Luanda on Saturday, soldiers of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia [PLAN] killed three South African soldiers at a military base north of the Outjo region and totally paralyzed telephone communications between Utapi and Ruacana.

In the same communique, SWAPO announces that its forces, the PLAN, have achieved outstanding successes in their struggle to liberate the country from racist colonial occupation and to carry out actions against the Pretoria troops throughout the country.

In spite of allegations by Windhoek military authorities that there are no SWAPO forces in the Namibian capital, it was announced that two South African soldiers were killed last weekend, 5 km from Windhoek, in fighting PLAN guerrillas, the communique stressed.

The SWAPO communique denounces the existence in Namibia of more than 100,000 soldiers with mass destruction arms, especially Mirage planes, Puma helicopters, Allouette and Dare, which are brought in from Western countries such as Great Britain, FRG, France, the United States and Canada. In conclusion, the communique criticizes the aggressive American policy that encourages the Botha-Malan clique to pursue the illegal occupation of Namibia and to refuse just resolutions for the independence of this territory.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEFENSE FORCE SAYS SOVIET HELICOPTER DESTROYED

LD141524 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 14 May 82

[Text] The South African Defense Force has announced that a Soviet helicopter was destroyed during followup operations against SWAPO terrorists in southern Angola. The helicopter, which was armed, was on the ground delivering supplies to SWAPO at the time. It is not known exactly when the operation took place. The defense force says in a statement released in Pretoria that forces who support and particularly direct SWAPO, as in this instance, should carry the consequences of their actions. No further details would be released.

PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES NATIONAL PARTY RALLY

MB170807 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 16 May 82 p 1

[By Ivor Wilkins]

[Text] The prime minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday called on South Africans to enter a new political future with whites, Coloureds and Indians in a spirit of mutual respect and justice.

In a strongly reformist performance at a National Party rally, he said: "Free yourselves by giving to others, in a spirit of justice, what you demand for yourselves."

Speaking at the small northwestern cape mining town of Springbok, he added: "Ask yourselves this question: "If we as nationalists and Afrikaners were today in the position where we had no franchise in our own areas, not on municipal, provincial or parliamentary level, would we have been satisfied with that?

"After the Anglo-Boer war we did not have these rights and we fought until we got self-government." The Afrikaner had continued his struggle until he achieved a republic.

"Why do we deny to other young people the right to bring to themselves what is theirs without revolution?"

To a solitary right-wing interjector in an audience of about 600 people, Mr Botha declares: "Are you prepared to change places with a Coloured person? If you are not prepared to say yes, you don't have a case."

Throughout, Mr. Botha's tone was reminiscent of his famous Upington address early in his premiership where he made a strong appeal for racial accommodation. He said yesterday he did not idolise white South Africa nor did he believe the Afrikaner was the chosen race, although it was a race with a calling.

There was a belief that only the Afrikaner had rights in South Africa, to which he said: "I must accept one thing. The God that I believe in is big enough to be the God of others as well."

On a personal note at the start of his 70-minute speech, Mr Botha said he had no political ambitions ahead. He had a long career behind him and when he retired he hoped it would not be on a sour note.

"What I am doing today is not because I am a wonderful person or a saviour of South Africa, but because I have a duty to fulfill.

"I am going to do it whether it makes me popular or unpopular," he said.

AFP Account

PA161530 Paris AFP in English 1446 GMT 16 May 82

[Text] Johannesburg, 16 May (AFP) -- South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha, in keeping with his famous "adapt or die" formula, has called for minority-rule whites to resolutely follow a reformist path within the country and make peace with neighbouring black states.

Speaking Saturday at Springbok in Cape Province, Mr. Botha also urged whites to envisage a new political future based on "mutual respect and justice" for South Africa's 2.8 million Coloureds (mixed race) and 850,000 Indians.

Observers viewed the statements as indicating a serious blow against apartheid, South Africa's system of white supremacy, although he never mentioned the country's about 20 million blacks.

Mr. Botha said that South Africans "must choose between prosperity and progress which is based on cooperation, or poverty and retrogression which flows from conflict."

"The National Party government chooses the road of prosperity," he said.

Mr Botha also indicated a major change of heart about South Africa's policies towards neighbouring black states. "Do you expect your prime minister to seek peace with our neighbours or must he sacrifice the youth of South Africa recklessly in the struggle?" he asked. "Do you expect me to negotiate with black states?"

"If you agree that we have a calling in this country, must we then not find peace with our neighbours?" Mr Botha said, without mentioning his recent "Bush summit" with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, nor South African incursions into southern Angola.

A nation can only prosper when it lives justly, and South Africa had to live with the realities of Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Angola, he said. These realities could not be wished away, he said.

Mr Botha also paid glowing tribute to South Africa's Coloureds and Indians, whom he said were vitally needed in certain key industries and in the police forces to maintain law and order.

When challenged by a member of the audience on the point, Mr Botha said there were more non-whites than whites in the country's police forces and that two-thirds of the workers in South Africa's vital arms industry were non-whites.

The Coloureds had made great strides in economic and social progress but still had no political rights, Mr Botha said. Civilization would triumph in South Africa only on the basis of mutual respect and justice, he said. He asked how he could justify to the outside world the fact that millions of people in South Africa did not even have the right to have control over the pavements outside their houses.

"Must I estrange these people (non-whites) or must I take them with me so that the country's security can be maintained?" Mr. Botha asked.

He asked his audience if any person was prepared to change his position for that of a Coloured person in South Africa. "If you are not prepared to say yes, I say you do not have a case against granting them rights to fulfil themselves," Mr. Botha said.

Mr Botha made no specific reference to the recommendations by the President's Council on possible political reforms in the country, and has sparked a heated debate among conservatives and reformers. But he appealed for moderation and affirmed that his government would take time to study the recommendations.

ZAMBIA

GDR'S FISCHER DEPARTS; MUSUKA LEAVES FOR USSR

CA131050 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 13 May 82

[Excerpts] German Democratic Republic Foreign Minister Mr Oskar Fischer left for the Congo -- Brazzaville -- yesterday on his continued tour of African countries at the end of a 3-day official visit to Zambia.

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs Minister of State Mr Ottema Musuka has arrived in Moscow on an official visit to the Soviet Union. Mr Musuka left Lusaka for the Soviet Union after meeting Mr Fischer.